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THE JERUSALEM



VÕLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19354

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EVELYN SCHOOL

: answers

FRIDAY, AUGUST 16, 1996 . ELUL 1, 5756 . 2 RABIA 2, 1417



capital tomorrow

demonstrations Jerusalem intersections tomorrow to protest the High Court of Justice's decision not to allow the closure of Rehov Bar-Ilan on Shabbat.

Eda Haredit activist Yehuda Meshi-Zahav said the only possible response to the court's ruling was to escalate the battle by expanding it beyond Bar-llan. As a result, he said, the community plans to bring "tens of thousands" to demonstrate at 30 as-yet-unspecified intersections this Shabbat.

The haredi decision is in open defiance of the court's call to let the public commission, decided upon at yesterday's hearing, operate in a calm atmosphere, without threats or violence."

Several hundred extra policemen are being brought to the capital to beef up existing forces that for two months have every Saturday battled with haredi and secular protesters at Rehov Bar-

Internal Security Minister Avigdor Kahalani called for "Jerusalem residents to continue to obey the law, in light of the High Court decision," according to a statement released by his spokesman yesterday evening.

Police already last night pre-pared for unrest in Mea She arim and other haredi neighborhoods. Immediately after the court decision, Jerusalem Police Chief Arye Amit called a meeting of police brass to discuss plans to handle

the expected unrest. Mayor Ehud Olmert joined the calls for restraint, but also said the authorities must be more understanding of the needs of the religious community when it comes to Rehov Bar-Ilan.

"The court has proven that it is a branch of Meretz," Meshi-Zahav charged after the hearing. "As long as [Bar-Ilan] remains open, we will not stay at home."

"Our community's expectations of the court were very low, because the haredi population is not fairly represented on it, and its objectivity is therefore flawed," added Dudu Zilbershlag, a spokesman for the haredi neigh-

borhoods around Rehov Bar-Ilan. "The High Court ruled in favor of the secular population just as the Badatz [the Eda Haredit's rabbinical court] would have ruled onesidedly in the haredim's favor had it heard the case."

However, despite these angry reactions, one of the attorneys representing the haredim in court promised that the community would cooperate with the public commission. "We hope this commission will be convinced that the road should be closed, at least during the hours recommended by the Supervisor of Traffic," attorney Meir Schechter explained.

The High Court decision "was a declaration of a cultural war." said MK Moshe Gafni (United Torah

Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy welcomed the decision to appoint a committee and said it was the first time the High Court had taken religious considerations

seriously. The court is deciding

(Continued on Page 3)

High Court: Rehov Bar-Ilan to stay open on Shabbat for now

IS 6.70 (Eilat NIS 5.70)

EVELYN GORDON

JERUSALEM'S Rehov Bar-Ilan will remain open to traffic on Shabbat for the time being, but a public commission will be set up to study the whole issue of traffic arrangements in the capital on Shabbat, the High Court of Justice decided yesterday.

A seven-justice panel began hearing four petitions against the govemment's decision to close a portion of the road during prayer times on Shabbat for a four-month trial period. Three petitions demanded that the road not be closed at all; a fourth wanted the road closed for all of Shabbat. During the hearing, however, the court concluded that it was impossible to decide on closing one street without examining the entire picture of traffic flow in Jerusalem on Shabbat.

Justice Dalia Dorner, who first proposed this approach, said her concern was aroused by the fact that all the alternatives to Rehov Bar-Ilan also ran through haredi

neighborhoods. "Thus, in solving one problem, you're creating another Isince closing Bar-llan would increase traffic on the alternate routes],* she said. "There's an issue of equality here."

Furthermore, she said, new haredi neighborhoods are being built (Continued on Page 3)



Haredim look at yesterday's High Court of Justice ruling on the Rebov Bar-Ilan petitions at the Supreme Court building in Jerusalem. (Reuter) Netanyahu: Gov't will stand by its bonds

DAVID HARRIS

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday appealed to the public to remain calm in face of a jittery bond market, calling on provident-fund investors to ignore newspaper headlines and not to

abandon the markets. "Bonds are a very secure invest-ment," he said. "The government stands behind them, and we'll take whatever measures necessary to make sure that these bonds always enjoy government support."

July index up 0.3%

Netanyahu's comments came as the Central Bureau of Statistics reported that the Cost-of-Living Index for July registered an 0.3 percent month-on-month increase. The annual rate of inflation

hased on the first seven months of 1996 is running at 13%. Earlier yesterday, the central bank presented a schedule program for its intervention in the debt markets, in the framework of

its so-called "safety net" mecha-

nism. The exact formula was decided upon before Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel was officially reappointed for another five years during a ceremony at the president's residence.

The bank will continue to purchase bonds on the secondary market as long as there are sale

Additionally, three mid- and long-term bond tenders of NIS 250 million will be purchased from the public - the first on (Continued on Page 16)

to receive 3.2% CoL increment MICHAL YUDELMAN

SOME two million employees in

Employees

the public and business sector will get a 3.2% Cost-of-Living increment with their August paycheck. Histadrut Secretary-General Amir Peretz and the employers' representative, Doron Tamir, yesterday signed the CoL increment agreement at a ceremony at Histadrut headquarters in Tel

(Continued on Page 3)

Mordechai presents Hebron pullback plans

DAVID MAKOVSKY

DEFENSE Minister Yitzhak Mordechai presented a range of options for Hebron redeploy-ment to Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and top aides yesterday, but no decisions were made during the

meeting.

The discussions are to contin-

ue on Sunday. Netanyahu said the emerging plan did not amount to a withdrawal but rather "an agreement that will allow coexistence" between Arabs and Jews in the city the last in the West Bank that has not come under Palestinian control.

"On the one hand we are committed to honoring agreements, but on the other, anyone with eyes understands how complex the security problem in Hebron is." Netanyahu told Channel 2 before the 90-minute meeting.

The other participants in the session were Finance Minister Dan Meridor, National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan, Transportation Minister Yitzhak Levy. policy Netanyahu's foreign adviser Dore Gold, and Cabinet Secretary Danny Naveh.

Mordechai is expected to meet Palestinian Authority leader Yasser Arafat next week, and the scope of a Hebron pullback is expected to figure in their

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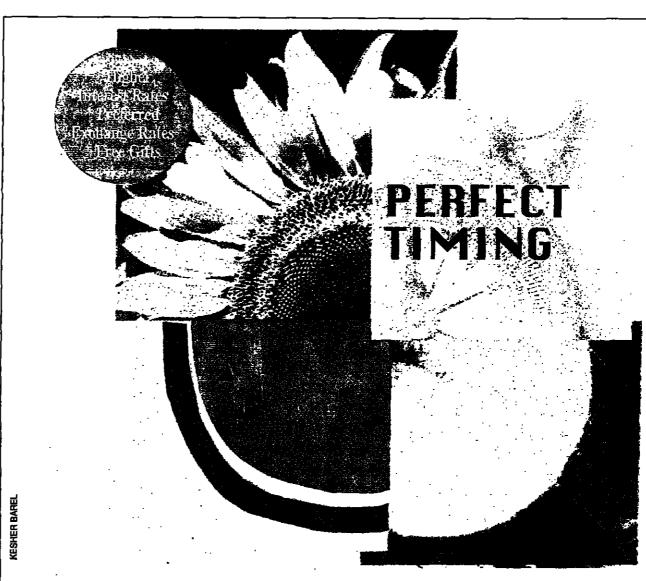
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ATTEMPTS were underway late last night to arrange a meeting between Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu and Foreign Minister David Levy.

The two spoke on the phone last night for the first time in 10 days. Israel Radio reported that Levy would not attend today's cabinet meeting, but that he would meet with Netanyahu on Sunday.

Levy returned to Israel yesterday evening after spending most of the week in the US on a private visit. He flew to New York last Sunday to attend the wedding of a Likud supporter's daughter and was accompanied by his political ally, National Infrastructure Minister Ariel Sharon, who

· A PALESTINIAN Authority military

court in Nablus overnight Wednesday

sentenced five people to prison terms

for participating in Hamas-instigated

protests in Tulkarm two weeks ago,

after accusing several of the defen-

The riot took place after the mass

About 200 people, mostly identi-

fied with Hamas, were arrested after

the protest, which turned into a raid of

Tulkarm jail to free prisoners there on

August 2. Police shot dead one

Two men, Salah Obeid and

Mahmoud Ibrahim, both aged 49,

were sentenced to 12 years after the

court charged them with being Israeli

agents sent to stir up a riot. One man

was sentenced to five years for trying

to burn a police vehicle, while two

others received two-year sentences

for throwing rocks and threatening

The Palestinian Authority has tried

to show that Hamas was working

CLARIFICATION

Due to a computer error, the

article on Page 23 of today's

Magazine, also appeared earli-

er this week in Money maga-

funeral of Mahmoud Jumayel, tor-

dants of being Israeli agents.

tured to death in Nablus jail.

demonstrator.

SARAH HONIG

returned home ahead of Levy. Levy arrived back in the country in time to make it to the inner cabinet deliberation on Hebron yesterday but instead made his way to his Beit She'an home directly from the airport. On landing, he briefly closeted himself with family members and close advisers in the VIP room and

then left tightlipped for the car trip northwards, refusing to say anything to waiting reporters. If Levy does not show up for the weekly cabinet session this morning, it will indicate that there is no compromise in the offing. Levy has boy-

taken for an autopsy to the Abu Kbir forensic center, which should ascer-

In Gaza, two human rights groups,

B Tselem and Human Rights Watch,

have demanded the release of a

human rights lawyer Mohammed

Dahaman of the Adameer prisoners'

support group. He was arrested after

he claimed in a statement by the

group that a man identified as Nahed

Dahlan committed suicide following

PA prosecutor-general Khalid

Qidrah said Dahlan's suicide had

nothing to do with the police and

ordered Dahaman questioned but not

had been to the police station several

times for interrogations recently and

However, according to Eid, Dahlan

jailed for making false statements.

an interrogation.

Dahaman is still in jail.

PM persuades Esther Pollard to give up hunger strike

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu yesterday persuaded Esther

Pollard, who has been on a hunger strike to draw attention to the plight

of her husband, convicted spy Jonathan Pollard, to give up her fast.

Netanyahu, who had met her earlier this week too, promised to make every effort to secure Jonathan's release. Esther said she would begin

eating immediately so that she would have strength to continue her cam-

paign in other ways. The meeting yesterday was attended by Rabbi

tain the definite cause of death.

PA court sentences five men

JON IMMANUEL

Palestinian legislative council, said

last week that three instigators had

been arrested and confessed to being

Justice Minister Freih Abu Medein

said Israel was looking for an excuse

to send soldiers back into PA territory

and "Israel was ready to raid Tulkarro

with two battalions behind the bor-

Many of the defendants, including

many who were released, com-

Meanwhile, in Ramallah and Gaza

there were new disputes over two

men alleged to have died after police

interrogations. In Ramallah, a 66-

year-old farmer died in police deten-

tion after being arrested six days ago

with his five sons over a land dispute

The Ramallah prosecutor told

human rights investigator Bassam

Eid that police told him Habai com-

plained of being beaten.

with neighbors.

Israeli agents.

cotted several cabinet forums in the past fortnight, to underscore his pique at not being entrusted with the leading role in the negotiations with the Palestinian Authority. He said his reason for not attending the meeting today is personal and has nothing to do with his problems with Netanyahu, Israel Radio reported.

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu has made it clear that he is determined to take charge of the contacts with the Palestinians himself. Unlike Levy, who is a regular member of the

inner cabinet, Sharon did show up for the meeting last night and took an active part in the proceed-

Israel, PA discuss Gaza international airport

ISRAELI and Palestinian officials met at the site of the Palestinian Authority's projected international airport in southern Gaza yesterday to ascertain what powers it

should have. coordinator Government Maj.-Gen. Oren Shahor insisted that "security has to be under our control, which is clear from the agreement on international crossings." Jamil Tarifi, PA civil affairs minister, said the Israelis could observe passengers, while Palestinians should have control over whatever is on

Palestinian territory. Three subcommittees are to meet to discuss various aspects of the airport, including security, airport buildings and air regulations. Israel does not want planes flying to or from countries hostile to Israel.

So far most of the 3 km. runway, which can accommodate the largest aircraft, has been built inside PA territory. The terminal, on which work has begun without Israeli permission, is supposed to straddle the Israel-PA Gaza border so Israel can control the arrivals and departures of all passen-

on Lebanon First focus DAVID MAKOVSKY

PRIME Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is no longer insisting that talks with Syria initially focus just on Lebanon, but rather signaled last night he is willing to negotiate over the Golan and Lebanon simultaneously.

Meanwhile, there were growing indications yesterday that Israel intended to be more activist in staging attacks against Hizbullah north of the security zone in Lebanon. Sources say there have been five inner cabinet meetings dealing with the subject of potential retaliation in Lebanon and contingency plans are being

While it remains unclear if Israel has plans to hit Syrian targets in the Bekaa Valley if needed. there is reason to believe that Minister Yitzhak Mordechai chose his words care-

that Israel would be willing to attack any element in Lebanon. In a call-in questions and answers session on the Cable News Network (CNN) last night, Netanyahu warned of sharp retaliation in the event that the Gallilee is hit with Katyushas.

PM signals flexibility

While saying he had no confirmation that Hizbullah has rockets with an extended range, he declared in a grave voice, "Israel will not tolerate the shelling of the Gallilee, the rocketing of civilian settlement without a very, very stiff response. It is not something that I would suggest to anyone. It is not a good idea to test our will and resolve on this."

During the program, expressed concern that if the violence in Lebanon is not solved, it four or five years, has shown a continuous patern of escalation, which is neither good for Syria

nor for Israel nor for peace.

On the subject of diplomacy, Netanyahu voiced his preference for negotiating over Lebanon First, but then added he would be prepared to negotiate on a few ssues at once.

"Lebanon is a good place - not to end negotiations with Syria - to start negotiations with Syria and to discuss other issues later or simultaneously," he said. "It is not a sequential process, either. I am prepared to discuss all outstanding issues on which we have differences."

Mordechai has put forward the idea of resuming negotiations with the Syrians at the Wye Plantation on the eastern Maryland shore, while having talks regarding Lebanon at the presidential palace in Beirut.

for instigating Tulkarm riot will worsen. "Lebanon, in the last Accuses them of being Israeli agents fully when he said on Wednesday Israel-Lebanon monitoring mitted suicide, but two sons who JON IMMANUEL were released said they saw bruises with Israel against the PA. Tayeb committee hears first complaint Abdel-Raheem, secretary-general of all over his body. the PA and a Tulkarm delegate to the In a change from normal practise, the Ramallah prosecutor, Issam Ansari, ordered that Habal's body be

THE five-nation monitoring committee supervising the Operation Grapes of Wrath understandings met in Nakoura in the security zone yesterday to hear its first complaint over an infringement of

the accord. The complaint was lodged by Israel over the killing of a 55-yearold Lebanese civilian by a squad of Hizbullah gunmen near A-Taibe inside the zone on Tuesday.

Furthermore, Israel complained that Hizbullah gunners covered the retreat of the squad by firing mortars from close to a school in a village north of the zone,

The understandings reached at the end of Operation Grapes of Wrath in April were designed to protect civilians on both sides of the border. Firing from residential areas by Hizbullah was also banned under the accord.

DAVID RUDGE

Brig.-Gen. David Tzur, head of the IDF's Foreign Forces Liaison Unit, and also included an official from the Foreign Ministry and two other senior IDF officers. The talks were held in a conference

room at UNIFIL's headquarters in Nakoura, and were attended by representatives of the other four nations - the US, France, Syria and Lebanon.

Yesterday, Lebanese newspapers and Hizbullah itself already rejected Israel's complaint as invalid, saying that Israel had no right to complain about the death of a Lebanese civilian - only Israeli The talks lasted for more than

seven hours. He described the atmosphere as " that you would expect at talks," saying that the attitude of the

indifferent. There was apparently no shaking of hands between the Israeli and Syrian delegates.

Syrians could best be described as

The monitoring committee discussed today the complaint from Israel about an incident on August 13 in which a civilian was killed and mortars were fired from a residential area," said Tzur. "At the conclusion of the discussion, the committee reiterated the importance of the Operation Grapes of Wrath understandings and the importance of safeguarding civil-

"From our point of view, it [the conclusion] relates to our complaint, with a tendency toward understanding our side," added Tzur, who declined to offer further details of the meeting, saying that the discussions were classified.

The Israeli delegation was led by Officials play down reports of Hizbullah's longer-range rocket capability

DEFENSE officials, trying to allay fears of a rocket attack deep inside Israel, maintained yesterday that Hizbullah has not been

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STEVE RODAN

with long-range equipped Katyusha rockets that can strike targets as far south as the Haifa suburbs.

The officials acknowledged that Hizbullah is receiving a steady flow of weapons, including the standard Katyusha rockets, from Iran, transported via Syria. But they said they don't have any proof that the Shi'ite fighters have obtained the 240 mm Katyusha rocket, which has a 40 km-range. Such a rocket launched from

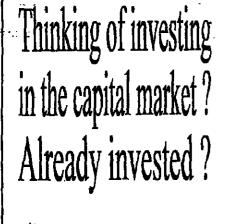
south Lebanon could strike Acre and Karmiel. The prospect of such

Join Emunak for Succot at the Sun Hotel, Bat Yam For further information call 02-561-9939 or 02-567-0690 an attack has alarmed municipal leaders in the North who on Wednesday met with Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai.

The officials seemed irritated with the assertion by Chief of Staff Lt.- Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak, who on Tuesday told the Knesset Foreign Affairs and Defense Committee of reports that Iran has supplied the upgraded Katyushas to Hizbullah.

Defense sources pointed out that Israel has received reports of a longer-range Katyusha being deployed in Lebanon since the 1982 Operation Peace for Galilee. Since then, the IDF has made strenuous efforts to find these rockets, to no avail.

The sources said Iran might be trying to supply Hizbullah with such weapons, but added that Syria would probably not allow such a transfer. "Hafez Assad does not want to lose control," a source





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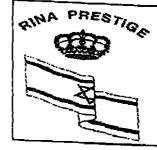
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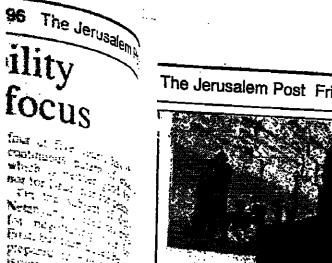
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Religious Affairs Minister Eli Suissa of Shas (center) and his deputy ministers, Shas MK Aryeh Gamliel (left) and NRP MK Yigal Bibi, make a toast yesterday upon starting work in the ministry.

ocal authorities won't fund school guards

THE Union of Local Authorities will not take any responsibility for the security of schools, and will not finance guards posted outside schools, chairman Adi Eldar announced yesterday.

"Last year government ministries promised to finance a third of the cost of posting security guards at schools nationwide," Eldar said at an emergency meeting. "However this promise was not fulfilled and local authorities ended up footing the bill for all security officers at schools."

Chairman of the National Parents' Association, Shai Lachman, said that if there are no private security guards "the school year will not begin." According to ULA spokesman Amon Perlman, the bill for school guards last year was NIS 60 million, and was paid after strike threats by parents and teachers and controversies among

RAINE MARCUS

police, the parents association and local authorities over who could do the best job in providing

Police believe that special mobile police patrols set up at the beginning of the last school year are sufficient to safeguard pupils.

Teachers and parents did not agree to the plan last year. As a result, private security guards were employed in addition and were subsidized by the local authorities.

At yesterday's meeting the ULA insisted that not only would it not finance private security guards, but it would also not contact companies or in any way be responsible for their employ-

back to the court on the commit-

The hearing then moved to the

question of whether the court's

interim injunction against closing

the road should remain in force.

The state and the haredim asked

that the injunction be lifted, while

the secular petitioners wanted it

The panel, with Tal dissenting,

decided to retain the injunction,

but said that after the public com-

mission is established, any of the

parties may come back to court to

ask that the injunction be

removed or modified, if develop-

The justices kept the injunction

in force to maintain the status quo

until the committee has finished

its work. However, they also

sharply criticized the govern-

ment's decision on its merits,

Supervisor of Traffic Alex Langer

had not done his homework

before deciding on the partial clo-

Langer, questioned by the jus-

tices, admitted that he did not

know what the actual volume of

traffic was on Bar-Ilan on

of view you have no idea what is

going on," said Cheshin in exas-

"In short, from the factual point

Shabbat.

peration.

ments warrant this step.

kept in place.

tee's progress in two months.

could not say how they would be financed," said

Deputy Education Minister Moshe Peled, also present at yesterday's meeting, said: "Even if the government will finance all security guards no local authority will contact security companies, and the government and Internal Security Ministry must be in charge of enlisting guards."

Since the government is responsible for school so. This year we are not responsible."

quo in Jerusalem."

established to build a new status

Meretz MK Yossi Sarid, the

third petitioner, praised the deci-

sion for "restoring order" in the

country. "Yesterday's hearing

made it clear that the Supervisor

of Traffic's decision was ill-con-

sidered, unbalanced, unprofes-

sional and influenced by political

Hemdat, the Council for

Freedom of Science, Religion and

Culture in Israel, also welcomed

the decision. "The court's ruling

prevented the precedent Transport

Minister [Yitzhak Levy] wanted

to establish, whereby it would be

possible to close a vital traffic

artery due to haredi pressure," the

organization said in a press state-

considerations," he said.

PROTESTS

(Continued from Page 1)

that religious considerations are

central and must be taken into

"I believe that in the end there

will be no choice but to build a

tunnel to replace Rehov Bar-

Ilan," Olmert told reporters, reit-

erating a proposal he first raised

earlier this week aimed at keeping

a thoroughfare in the area open on

Shabbat without disturbing haredi

"A tunnel will ease traffic con-

gestion in the area during the

week and also be a solution for

Shabbat," Olmert said. The

municipality, however, would

honor any decision taken by the

Secular activists were delighted

"We won in the sense that the

situation [on Bar-Ilan] will con-

unue to be as it has been in previ-

ous years. There will be no

change in the status quo," said

tions... which is important."

High Court, Olmert added.

with the court's ruling.

account," he said.

residents.

'We were at the Knesset's Education and Interior committees, which agreed there should be guards at all educational establishments but

security, it should also be responsible for financing and employing guards, added Eldar. "Last year government ministries were supposed to divide up the payments with us, but failed to do

Weapons smuggling ring from Jordan to PA revealed

A GANG of Palestinian smugglers managed to outfox the army and police for at least a year and bring weapons and ammunition from Jordan to the Palestinian Authority, police investigators have discovelse they, or others, managed to smug-

The smugglers brought the goods from Jordan by crossing the Dead Sea in motorized rafts. Six of the rafts were found in a police bust last month in the smugglers' homes in the Hebron area and east Jerusalem.

On Wednesday, the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court lifted a ban on publication of details of the case. Senior police sources said they were upset the ban was lifted because it will hurt the continuation of the investigation and possibly their ability to locate

"We are talking about a serious breach of our borders," said a senior investigator, Chief Superintendent Rahamim Tuval of the Judea and Samaria District. "Who knows what

لمكذا من ألاصل

gle into the country. We may not just be dealing with weapons, but also terrorists," Tuval said. He said the Dead Sea route was also probably used to bring illicit drugs into the country.

Eleven gang members, including two women, were detained in the police bust on July 23. Most members were of the Aramin family, and were not connected to any terror group but criminally motivated, according to

Some 55,000 Jordanian dinars and

\$45,000 were found during the police raid of homes in the A-Zayim and A-Tor neighborhoods of east Jerusalem, and Sayir village near Hebron. Two pistols, ammunition, false Israeli identity cards, and a pipe bomb in the making were also discovered in the homes

Police also found a document that links the PA with the gang, and includes a list of weapons and ammunition the PA received from the smugglers, according to Tuval. He said the list includes machine guns, but

declined to give more details. Sources close to the case said Israel has contacted the Jordanian authorities for help in the investigation. Six of the suspects were remanded until the end of the hearings, while five were

Engineer charged for theft of millions in computer fraud

A COMPUTER engineer was yesterday charged with breaking the codes of computers in banks and cheating them out of millions of shekels.

Daniel Cohen, 24, of Ramat Gan also entered government computers to change his girlfriend's bagrut grades, police told the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court yesterday.

He was arrested with dozens of forged credit cards and other forged documents, including an identity card, in his possession, police told

Cohen has a previous conviction for falsification and fraud and was served at the time with a suspended sentence. Police said he was refusing to cooperate with the investigation and had declared he had no problem to disguise his identity and leave the сошліту.

Denying the allegations against him. Cohen told the court that plainclothes dectectives had arrived in his apartment dressed as electricians.

They put a revolver to my head. I didn't answer them because I don't speak or read Hebrew well." Cohen said. He charged that the detectives had "threatened to gang-rape" his girlfriend.

The defendant's lawyer requested that he be allowed to remain under house arrest, particularly since his computers had been confiscated. But judge Zvi Caspi ruled that he would have to remain in custody for six

Foreign airlines: Security personnel shortage causing delays at B-G Airport

A SHORTAGE of security personnel at Ben-Gurion airport is causing delays in takeoffs, foreign airline personnel have said.

"We have received complaints from passengers who wait 21/2 to three hours...until they reach the security inspection. This causes the takeoff delays," said Eli Messer, chairman of the Foreign

Airlines Panel. "Sometimes we have to leave passengers behind and take off. Otherwise the plane would sit too long on the ground and we would miss connections," he told Israel

HAIM SHAPIRO and News agencies

carried out showed that dozens of passengers had been left behind by foreign and Israeli airlines in recent days.

This week, The Jerusalem Post reported that some 50 passengers had missed flights to South Africa and to Rome in one morning because of security delays.

All passengers leaving the airport are questioned by security personnel who often inspect suitcases and carry-on baggage by hand.

Airport director Shaul Hazan said The radio said a survey it had heavy passenger traffic in August

through a single terminal too small to accommodate them, rather than a shortage of inspectors, was responsible for the delays.

Hazan said the planned new terminal would ease the strain but even if construction began now, it would not be completed before the

Last night, Arkia announced that, in order to help ease the pressure at Ben-Gurion, it would open early check-in counters at all of its offices throughout the country.

Arkia provides early check-in services for Swissair, British Airways, Lufthansa, and Air

BAR-ILAN

(Continued from Page 1) in Jerusalem.

"A committee was set up [by the city] on one road because it became an issue. But tomorrow, another road will be an issue," she said. "You can't deal with Bar-Ilan on its own. You have to deal with Jerusalem as a whole with all its major arteries."

"Where will the limit be [on road closings]?" added Supreme Court President Aharon Barak.

Barak therefore suggested that the government set up a highlevel public commission to determine both the general criteria for closing major arteries on Shabbat and a specific compromise on which roads in the capital should be closed. This idea was accepted by the government, the secular petitioners and the haredi representatives alike.

We believe the proper way to handle this problem is by reaching a consensus among the different sectors of the population regarding traffic on Shabbat,' wrote Justices Barak, Dorner, Shlomo Levine, Theodor Orr, Eliahu Mazza, Mishael Cheshin and Zvi Tal afterward, in their decision.

"[The committee's] members will reflect, in a balanced fashion, the entire gamut of opinions on religious-secular relations in Jerusalem and outside it," the decision continued. "The committee's goal will be to draw up a social contract for ordering these relations in the near future."

The government is to report

COL (Continued from Page 1)

Peretz said the low July CoL Index had been expected because of the slowdown in the economy.

He demanded that Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel reduce

the interest rate by at least 2%. Workers are being dismissed while no new ones are being

"Shmooze"

"Shabbat Shalom"

"Chag Sameach"

"Kvetch"

"It's A Boy"

"It's A Girl" "Whatever ... "

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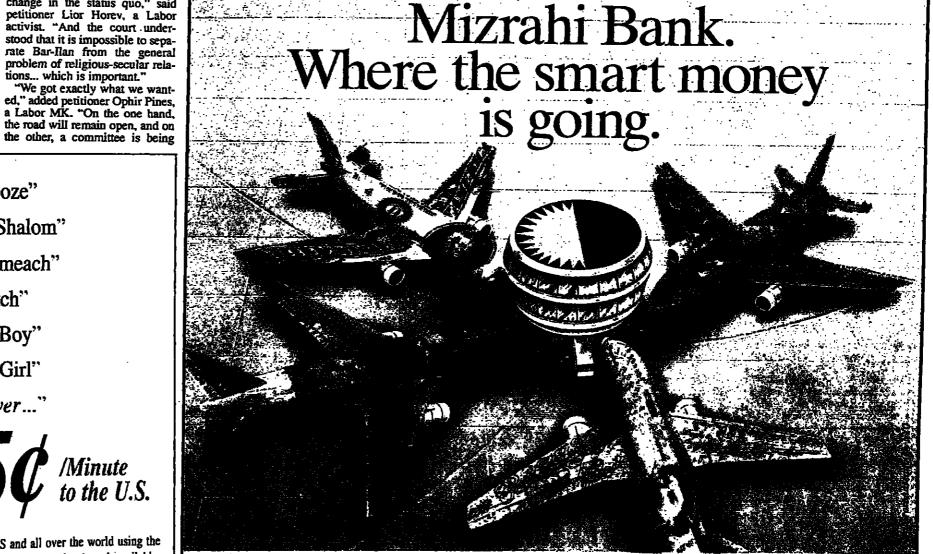
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hired. There is a smell of recession in the air," Peretz said. Tamir blasted Frenkel's policy sharply, noting one man, unilaterally and without considering any other factor, is creating a

destructive policy which has brought us to the brink of disas-Attention Americans! /ideotape Conversion & Copying

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EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem 91000 Telephone 02-531-5666, Fax 02-538-9527. CIRCULATION— 02-531-5610. Fax 02-538-9017. ADVERTISING - 02-531-5608, 02-531-5637-40 Fax 02-538-8408. TEL AVIV: 5 Rehov Hamasger, POB 28398 (61283) Telephone 03-6390333, Fax 6390277. HAIFA 20 Nordau, Hadar Hacarmel, Telephone 04-8623166, Published daily except Saharday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. © The Jerusalem Post 1996, Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval system, or in any other form, is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1955 GERSHON ACRON, 1955-1974 TED LURIE, 1974-1975 LEA BEN-DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS. INTERNET EDITION: http://www.jpost.co.il General E-mail: jpedt@jpost.co.il Editorial E-mail:editors@jpost.co.il Subscriptions E-mail: subs@jpost.co.il

Glimmer of hope

THE government is entitled to a small sigh of relief. The low Consumer Price Index published yesterday will have been welcome news after another week of relative gloom. If the Bank of Israel's tight money policy is really beginning to take effect and Avraham Shohat's legacy of burgeoning inflation is indeed coming under control we can expect a series of modest interest rate cuts.

Lower rates will reduce the attraction of bank savings plans over provident funds and lead to a progressive, natural and highly desirable weakening of the shekel as the differential between the rates paid on foreign currency and shekel deposit narrows. If, and it is no small if, inflation is really coming down then the worst is probably over, or will be within a few months.

Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel will no doubt be careful not to loosen the reins too much too soon, but lower rates and a weaker shekel will also mean faster growth and a boost for exports, while the current high rates and overvalued shekel mean the opposite.

This relief, though, does not mean that all the problems are solved. It is unfortunate that the crisis befell a relatively inexperienced government, aided by civil servants with limited understanding of capital markets and pressured by bankers and self-interested industrialists concerned primarily with and profitability of the businesses they own or run.

Genuine reform is not often formulated under pressure.

If the government can weather the storm, which is probably less of a storm than some of the press and the prejudiced would have us believe, then they can get on with tackling some of the real problems plaguing the economy in general and the capital market in particular. The first step is sticking to its guns on cutting the budget.

Cuts always hurt, somewhere. But if the options are a lost limb or a dead patient few would choose the latter.

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So the prime minister and finance minister will have to persuade the rest of the cabinet, the coalition and possibly even some of the opposition (so far only Avraham Poraz has demonstrated the requisite intellectual honesty) that the cuts are necessary. Then, with the broadest possible coalition of support, they will have to explain to the nation that we cannot go on living beyond our means. If that entails confrontation with the Histadrut, so be it. The later in their term of office they leave the inevitable the more politically difficult it will become. Netanyahu is no Margaret Thatcher, but few serious economists deny that labor market reform will be essential if Israel is to compete

Indeed labor market tightness is one of the urgent problems the economy faces. High-tech companies increasingly complain of a shortage of skilled staff and rising wages which will soon dull their competitive edge, if this has not already happened. Resources need to be channeled from other disciplines (how many lawyers do we need) at all levels - university, high school, vocational schools and adult retraining

to address this area.

If industry is to receive the capital it needs to grow and thrive, the changes necessary for an intelligently-structured, soundly functioning capital market have to be put in place. Provident funds may have been fine for the Sixties and Seventies but today are anachronisms given the changes in demography and economics. Unfortunately, too many people still believe in the nanny state.

Indeed, only yesterday, an otherwise enlightened capital market pundit echoed bankers' calls for the provident funds to be offered guaranteed returns. Aging populations and an increasingly spending (as opposed to saving) society mean that such proposals are a recipe for disaster. Have we learned nothing from the pension funds effective collapse.

If a government promises people returns it cannot be sure to generate, someone winds up footing the bill, or else it reneges on its promises. Britain and America have learned that there is no alternative but to make people responsible for their own retirements. There people know from the outset that if they do not save enough in their working years they will suffer when they retire.

The provident funds are badly-run behemoths whose very nature is an invitation to a liquidity crisis. Vast amounts of money, which can be withdrawn almost on demand, are trapped inside vehicles which invest too much in insufficiently liquid instruments.

There is no shortage of solutions. For one thing, people could be forced to withdraw their money when it matures after 15 years, or be forced to lock it in for further fixed periods. That way, at least, the funds would know what their maximum liquidity requirements were, and they would be manageable numbers. And there is no reason why people should not be given the freedom to manage their own retirement monies just as they are in the US and UK through IRAs (individual retirement accounts) and PEPs (personal equity plans). Even if people were to take a dislike to bonds or stocks at any given time, a wave of selling would have little impact on overall liquidity.

Also, individuals and institutions should be encouraged to invest more abroad. Foreign markets are more liquid and less volatile. The limitations currently obtaining are a pathetic attempt to prevent flight of capital. The strength of the shekel, and foreign investor interest in Israel, proves this to be misguided. And Israeli firms should be forced to compete for capital internationally.

Another necessary step is the equalization of taxes. Local investors are deterred from investing abroad by the fact that gains on foreign securities are taxed while those on local ones

And from a more immediate perspective, there is no good reason, other than giving the banks an easy turn, why interest on government bonds is taxed. This anomaly forces people who might otherwise buy (cheap) government bonds straight into the arms of the banks' savings

Disarming psychological warfare

Those interests were served by Chief of General Staff Amnon Lipkin-Shahak's announcement that the Hizbullah's Katyushas in South Lebanon now have a range capable of reaching Acre and Karmiel? Did it help the residents of those two cities? Did it do anything for tourism in the western Galilee? One might just as well announce that the Syrians have missiles capable of hitting Haifa

and other cities in Israel. This is nothing new - they have had them since before the Yom Kippur War, But they have not used them, except in one case when they tried to target the Ramat David airport and missed. Residents of New York might just as well have been concerned at the prospect of attack by longrange missiles aimed at that city during the Cold War between the superpowers. US citizens did not break into panic in the face of a potential Soviet missile attack, because they relied on the balance of terror to deter the other side from terrorizing the US home front. And when the Soviets advanced their missiles to the US backyard, in Cuba, the Americans took decisive steps to remove the ballistic threat from

One should not assume that the chief of general staff intended to hint to the members of the Knesset Foreign Affairs Committee that they should learn a lesson from the US precedent in Cuba 34 years ago, or from the Israeli precedent in Lebanon 14 years ago, when Israel went to war to free itself from the threat of hundreds of Katyusha launchers and cannon muzzles aimed at Galilee settlements.

their vicinity.

In the absence of an operative removal of the threat, what was

MOSHE ZAK

already over a month ago Shahak told the committee that "Hizbullah has recently received a large number of weapons from Iran via Damascus, including enhanced long-range Katyushas and missiles made in Iran." This statement was published in the papers, but since it was couched in general terms it did not create

a panic. This week Shahak, more con-

Israel who will be able to influence their articles, and through them Israeli public opinion.

Arafat hardly needs a liaison officer, this week he attempted to speak directly to the Israel public in their own living rooms via ITV's Channel One.

 In the past he used to include in his speeches in international forums a story about the map of Israel "from the Nile to the

Israel did not agree.

There is no reason to help terrorists cenduct a war of nerves

cretely, said that the new Katyushas can reach Acre and Karmiel, and caused an immediate panic. Mayors from the north rushed to Jerusalem for urgent discussions with the government on the implications. It is doubtful whether Shahak had answers to give them, other than passing the buck of searching for a diplomatic settlement to the government.

A diplomatic settlement under the threat of Katyushas and missiles will carry a very high price tag. After permitting the transfer of the missiles and the Katyushas Syria will call for far-reaching concessions over the Golan and the water sources, while Iran, and after having provided this new materiel, will call for Jerusalem a price which no Israeli government will be able to pay. There is no reason why Israel should help the Hizbullah to conduct a war of nerves against Israeli citizens.

THERE IS also no justification for Israel's official television channel to allow the PLO to conproposal for an immediate duct a war of nerves against its own citizens. Arafat's aides have

Euphrates" stamped on 10 agorot coins, but any Israeli can pull a coin from his wallet and confirm this as a dirty lie. Not so with the story he told this week that just before the Madrid conference he came to an agreement with Yitzhak Shamir on discussions of the Jerusalem question. Who is going to take the trouble to check on a statement which Arafat repeated twice in the course of the interview? The fact is that just before the Madrid conference Shamir declared in the Knesset, "The Jerusalem question will not feature in the negotiations. Jerisalem will eternally remain united: the capital of Israel and the Jewish people, and the city of peace."

allow Jerusaiem Arabs to be included in the Jordanian-Palestinian delegation to the Madrid conference, and this caused a fierce disagreement between him and US Secretary of State James Baker, as Baker testifies in his memoirs.

Furthermore, Shamir refused to

Israel did not give in on the Jerusalem question, and preventthe point of creating panic in recently been looking for a liai- ed Faisal Husseini from taking Acre and Karmiel? In fact, son officer with columnists in part in the conference as a mem-

ber of the delegation, in order to emphasize that Jerusalem is Israeli sovereign territory. Husseini worked with Hanan Ashrawi as an advisor only. The Americans did promise the Palestinians that they were ready for the Jerusalem question to be on the agenda of the negotiations for the permanent settlement, but there was no Israeli commitment concerning Jerusalem, just as there was no Israeli commitment concerning the settlements. The Palestinians made demands, but

In his Israel Television interview, Arafat tried to throw dust in the eyes of Israelis by claiming that he had participated in the Madrid conference, when Israel had a written commitment from the Americans that the PLO would not be represented there and that "it is not the US's intention to involve the PLO in the process or to force Israel into a dialogue or negotiations with the

These are just some of the blatant lies which Arafat put about in his interview, with a view to rocking the confidence of the Israeli public in the government. and to prove that Israel has reneged on its commitments. Hizbullah is trying to talk to us through the muzzle of the Katyushas, the PLO is trying to talk to us on the television screen, and they both intend to undermine the morale of the Israeli public. Linfortunately in the last few days we have fallen into the trap set for us by these two terrorist organizations. The "freedom of information" sweet which they used as bait turned out to include a poison liable to break the nerve of the home front, on whose steadfastness depends the chance of peace.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

The wrong man for the job

Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu won't be able to play out his presidential fantasies. He isn't up to it, and there are too many limitations built into the political system. But at least he could act presidential.

In the mess over the appointment and resignation of Prof. Ya'acov Ne'eman as justice minister, Netanyahu has yet to utter a word in support of the integrity of the Justice Ministry and its staff. Netanyahu doesn't seem aware that Ne'eman is out to destroy the reputation of his Justice Ministry: his as prime minister and his as a

citizen. Consistency doesn't seem to be Ne'eman's strongest suit. Immediately after Ne'eman was appointed, he attacked Attornev-General Michael Ben-Yair's alleged political bias in closing cases against Labor Party government officials and in prosecuting

those on the political Right. Then, on the eve of Ne'eman's resignation came the High Court of Justice's reversal of Ben-Yair's decision not to prosecute the National Religious Party's former religious affairs minister, Avner Shaki, This, of course, destroyed Ne'eman's claim of political bias. So Ne'eman shifted his attack on the attorney-general from bias to professional incompetence. In doing so, however, the object of

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

his attack changed from the attorney-general to the Justice Ministry as a whole. Would Ne'eman act this way if

he were representing a client in the professional role in which he has been so successful? Ne'eman appears to be determined to prove the truth of a venerable adage - a lawyer who represents himself has dency, in common with Eastern European countries, of fusing the two of collapsing constitutional issues into political issues. The Ne'eman appointment is a case lesson in the danger to be avoided.

THE PLACE of the judiciary in our system of government is a major constitutional issue. The

Ne'eman destroyed his ability to serve as the country's justice minister

a fool for a client.

Ne'eman has destroyed his ability to serve as justice minister, regardless of the outcome of the police investigation into his alleged attempt to obstruct justice.

In retrospect, Netanyahu erred in appointing him in the first place, but it was an understandable error. It would be an unforgivable mistake to appoint him a second time.

The Ne'eman appointment was an error not just at the personal level, but at the policy level as well. It involved a mixing together of constitutional politics and partisan politics.

Our political culture has a ten-

increasing involvement of the Supreme Court in matters of high political saliency in recent years sharpened it. The adoption in 1992, under the Likud's Shami. government, of basic laws giving the court the power of judicial review over Knesset legislation added urgency to the problem.

The issue of the closing of Rehov Bar-Ilan to traffic on Shabbat is a case in point. The constitutional issue is whether this should be decided in the political arena or by the application of a legal rule and a court order that draws the line.

Opposition to present trends in the expansion of judicial power is

not the monopoly of any political or ideological camp. True, religious parties prefer the Knesset and the government to the judicial forum. In a sense, this is paradoxical. Ordinarily, minorities prefer the courts, because in legislatures and in governments, the majority rules.

Not so in Israel. Religious fears of the expansion of judicial power, while highly exaggerated, are genuine enough. However, elementary political wisdom dictates that the constitutional issue should be isolated, as much as possible, from the religious issue.

That is why the Ne'eman appointment was so mistaken from the point of view of policy planning. It collapsed the constitutional issue into the political issue and promised to make the two equally insoluble. The choice of justice minister should be based on his constitutional - not his religious - universe.

The constitutional revolution, inaugurated by the adoption of judicial review of Knesset legislation, makes a re-evaluation of the judicial role imperative. The augmented potential of judicial powerin deciding hot political issues is reason enough to limit the occasions for its exercise. Ne'eman destroyed his ability to contribute to a resolution of the constitutional issue by focussing attention on two issues that are essentially

POSTSCRIPTS

ALL RIGHT, sports fans, are you ready for this: a New Zealand tavern is providing patrons with frozen chickens to use as bowling

The competition is being advertised with the slogan: "Naked Chicks: We Pluck 'Em, You Bowl

The Fat Ladies' Arms Bar at first canceled the game after it was Prevention of Cruelty to Animals. (That's right, fans, it's alroing to becruel to frozen enickens.)

But after getting a deluge of publicity on talk radio shows, pub owner Shayne Armstrong said the game is back or again.

The bowling alley is 15 meters

said - "That's long gone, the chicken's dead" - but because criticized by the Society for the even three-year-olds are taught not to throw food around.

question their values," she said.

lette has scooped, sanded, brushed and swept away a huge attivity and labor. outcropping of sandstone in Ojo Caliente, northern New Mexico, creating a magical, swirling, echo-

six meters high, and the intricate inlaid table and shelves in one web of small niches and rooms could make up a small bouse. "I want to make this place avail-

able for personal experiences." says Paulette. "It's made to pro-

amazing result of one man's cre-

Every bit of the cave is finished with scallops, molded curves, smooth ledges, inlaid stones, naring shrine he calls Windows in the row pods and crusty ledges. There The ceilings stretch more than like glistening pools and a small are small mirrors inlaid that look-

> Chamber, a dark egg-shaped cavity large enough to stand inside.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR UNITY GOVERNMENT Sir, - I was horrified to read about insult potential visitors and friends the rift between Prime Minister Binof Israel.

ister David Levy.
It is inconceivable that David Levy can jeopardize Israel's good name in the international arena by showing his displeasure and sulking in the proverbial corner. What gives him the right to refuse to see international representatives and to refuse to interact effectively with his foreign ministry staff?

vamin Netanyahu, and Foreign Min-

If there is one area of Israel's affairs that directly affects its friends and supporters in the Diaspora, it is foreign relations, and it is hard to stand by silently and watch Levy

Sir, - There are a few greedy, corrupt, venal, or harred-fomenting, Orthodox rabbis, who treat basic Jewish values with contempt. If [therefore accused all of Orthodox Judaism of greed, corruption, venality, brotherly hatred, or contempt for basic lewish values, you would be right to censure me for condemning the majority for the sins of the few. Yet this is exactly the tactic used by those who seek to delegitimize the Reform and Masorti (Conservative)

There are certainly some fools who take their sense of humanism to extremes, or interpret the most fundamental precepts of Judaism so loosely that they lose all meaning. However, they should not be used as a pretext to impugn the vast

maiority. Which alternative is preferable totally secular Jews whose only connection with Judaism is the historical accident that they happen to be now living in Israel, or modern liberal movements that encourage millions of Jews in the Diaspora and

It is time Levy's bluff is called, and the prime minister should act firmly to curtail his childish and damaging behavior.

If what is needed to curb Levy and remove his ability to threaten Israel's prime minister whenever his ego is hurt, is a strong broad-based unity government that can lead Israel into the next millennium and continue to make very effort to bring that elusive peace to our Jewish State, then Netanyahu should have the courage to put it in place. JOY WOLFE

Cheadle, Cheshire.

Israel to maintain their faith, study Jewish history, raise their children with Jewish consciousness, support the Zionist cause and love Israel? How many would by now have been totally assimilated because they are repelled by the crude, sexist, selfserving, faction-riven, politicized and intolerant aspects of much (anti) modern Orthodoxy? I have many Orthodox friends who are also dis-gusted by these failings - friends who recognize the vital contribution we liberals are making to the survival and strengthening of Judaism and

In his contemptuous attitude, Yoel Lerner (Letters, August 2) reminds me of the representative of the ministry for religious affairs who told members of my Masorti congregation, "Better you should convert to Islam than be a Conservative!" In his overwhelming hatred and blindness, Lerner is at one with the fanatics who - according to Orthodox

teachings - led to the destruction of the Temple. Beersheba. M. TEPPER-SCHOTZ Netanya.

WHERE CREDIT IS DUE

Sir, - In a front-page article on August 6, you reported on an agreement between Israel and Jordan to proceed with the logistic hub project near Eilat, crediting me as the originator of the idea. Although, together with Rafael Benvenisti, I am working on the project on behalf of Israel, this important concept, like many other projects dealing with regional cooperation, was conceived by Jordanian Crown Prince Hassan.

HIDDEN CAMERAS

JOSEPH VARDI

Sir, - In his letter of August 8, Chaim Forst criticizes Dr. Elihu Richter's suggestion that hidden cameras be used in the detection of dangerous speeding and tailgaiting drivers.

In fact, Dr. Richter was not referring to "off line" camera monitoring which, as Mr. Forst correctly suggests, is a dubious means of punishment due to the time lag in notifying and finally prosecuting the He referred to "on line" detec-

tion using an infra-red camera at the roadside and 200 meters further down the road giving the driver a computer print-out with a photo of the registration plate of the vehicle. At the same time, a policeman or woman issues the fine. Since this process has been suc-

cessfully tried out in Netanya, reducing road deaths and injuries by 45 percent in a five-month period, what Dr. Richter advocates makes It is expected that this system will

eventually be adopted in all major towns in Israel. ZELDA HARRIS. Spokesperson,

long and two meters wide "with a 'jump' in the middle, so you need to use a bit of muscle when you're bowling," Armstrong said.

Ro Williams, director of Wellington's Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, was not amused. It wasn't cruelty to animals, she

Bending was a head chicken when food banks are struggling? I

corner. Then there's the Luminous Ess.

vide an emotional opportunity for Paulette. "When I'm done, you'll For some it's a hallowed place, a an egg, up on a pedestal with Sit in the middle of a fog of light in refuge from the mad world, a sanc-doors. Light will come in from FOR ALMOST two years Ra Pau- Others view it as a work of art, an coming from below as well. Others view it as a work of action. above, but it will look like its.

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لمكذا من ألاصل

A 'Golanesque' situation

ne of the iron rules of negotiation is not to offer your adversary something he already possesses. Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu asks Syrian President Hafez Assad to forget the Golan Heights and to console himself with "water and security." With an Israeli withdrawal from the security zone as an added div-

1996 The Jerusale

But water and security are two assets that Assad already holds, With the Euphrates and the Orontes rivers, Syria seems pretty well fixed in the water department

Similarly, Assad does not have pressing security concerns. If he would restrain the Hizbullah activists, all Syria and Lebanon would be models of tranquility. The security zone is an Israeli headache, not a Syrian one and the liberation of Israel from its headaches has never been an

urgent Syrian priority.

Netanyahu has spoken about a
Kafkaesque vision in which Israel wishes to leave the security zone in Lebanon but is restrained by Assad's objections. If this were really the situation, the picture would indeed be Kafkaesque. The truth, more accurately described, tells us that Assad has no objection to an Israeli withdrawal from the "security zone," but suspects that this unselfishness is linked in our national policy with total and permanent retention of the Golan Heights. Who can say that this interpretation is wrong?

At the end of the day it will emerge that Israel's problem with Syria is more Golanesque than Kafkaesque. The idea that it is possible to obtain peace with Syria while maintaining a hundred percent Israeli rule in Golan has its own intrinsic beauty. All it lacks is realism.

Meanwhile, it is consoling to that the 1974 Disengagement Agreement which I helped to conclude with Syria has been meticulously respected

ABBA EBAN

by both signatories. Those were the days when mere foreign min isters, working with Israeli mili tary chiefs like Mordechai Gur. dealt with such humble tasks as preparing accords capable of lasting 23 years. Nobody then asked whether military chiefs and Foreign Ministry officials should be present together when politico military agreements are negotiat-

The formulation of a peace treaty always begins with a paragraph ending the state of war. But

No external friendship can compensate the lack of a constructed regional order

the second paragraph determines the boundary between the two parties. It is not hard to imagine how Egyptian President Anwar Sadat would have reacted if Menachem Begin had said: "Let's discuss everything except the boundary in Sinai between Egypt and Israel."

AS IF the Syrian channel were not complex enough, there is dead-lock in the Palestinian sector as well. A correspondent has written that on taking office Netanyahu was "surprised to learn" of the large number of occasions on which Yasser Arafat had helped to thwart murderous attacks on Israeli targets.

I was surprised by the premier's surprise. Details of Arafat's antiterrorist activities were known to our public early in the election campaign. The deeper question is what our government will do with Arafat's anti-terrorism now that it has presumably recovered from its bout of astonishment. If Arafat is

acknowledged to be Israel's partner in the anti-terrorist cause it would be reasonable for Israel's prime minister to celebrate that partnership by consultation and contact. If it is said that Arafat is acting "only" in his own interest, that makes his anti-terrorism more authentic. All governments take their decisions in the name of selfinterest and then explain their decisions in the name of self-sacrificial altruism.

It did not take Yitzhak Rabin more than a single day to solve the psychological problem involved in the historic handshake, which has since come to symbolize the inherent solubility of all international conflicts. Netanyahu still agonizes. By that difference, and several others, Rabin confirmed that he was the greater of the two men - and paid the full price.

The details of the Oslo Agreement are less important than its central message. So long as the Arab attitude was to regard Israel as an artificial entity imposing discontinuity on its own region, Israeli rhetoric about the outstretched hand was important only in the world of tactics and images. That was an important world in its time and I do not repent of my place in it. But this reason or excuse lapsed in 1988 when even the US proclaimed, through US Secretary of State George Schultz, that Arab sentiment had moved towards pragmatism and

The Rabin and Peres administrations were the first to make retations with the neighboring world the central theme of Israel's national policy. They realized belatedly - that no external friendship can compensate for the absence of a laboriously constructed regional order.

Netanyahu should not dismantle this achievement for the sake of a few superfluous caravans.

The writer is a former foreign

brought up the matter of the

Rabin-Peres government's releasing of thousands of convicted

murders from prison as a political

"It certainly contributed to a

cheapening of the value of human

life," the source conceded. "Many

of these people had committed

heinous murders and had only

served a small part of their sen-

tences. That doesn't mean I think

the policy was mistaken," he went

absolutely necessary for achiev-

ing peace. Still, we could have

taken more seriously the moral

"It's not just that thousands of

proven murderers are now roam-

ing free - though we made some

of them sign statements repudiat-

ing violence. It's also the mes-

sage this gives. Either murder is a

crime that requires punishment, or

it isn't. We can't have it both

These conversations left me

with a feeling of encouragement.

Now that right-wing politicians

have condemned the phenomenon

of the Amir fan club and

Education Minister Zvulun

Hammer (National Religious

Party) has appointed a committee

to look into the matter, and now

that left-wing politicians have

started to reflect about problemat-

ic aspects of the Rabin-Peres gov-

that the nation is on a path of heal-

translator living in Jerusalem.

ing and reconciliation.

emment's policies, I'm optimistic

problems that were involved.

Releasing these people was

measure.



Looking in, looking out

ecent revelations of a Yigal Amir fan club among reli-Affur fair class among gious schoolgirls prompted calls in the Labor Party for an investigation and a crackdown.

Labor MKs noted that "murder is murder is murder," and is never justified by political views or political despair. Taking that profound truth to heart, some in Labor have started to do some soul-searching of their own.

"We feel ongoing horror both at the assassination and at the assassays a high-ranking party official. "But it's true that, the past three years, our own party gave a certain legitimization to murder."

He continued, "It's strange that while Amir, who murdered one person, is where he belongs locked up for good - another murderer, responsible for the deaths of thousands, has been elevated into a statesman and completely absolved of his crimes."

The official confirmed that the reference was to Palestinian Authority Chairman Yasser Arafat. "I'm not suggesting," he hastened to add, "that Arafat should be apprehended and indicted. I'm just saying the incongruity has started to bother some of us."

When I asked another wellplaced party member if he was having second thoughts about excusing Arafat, he explained: "Giving Arafat a political role was unavoidable, justified by the need for peace. Politics make strange bedfellows. After all, during World War II, the democracies

accepted Stalin as an ally." He admitted, though, that while it was one thing to give Arafat political power for pragmatic reasons, it was quite another to fawn over him and glorify him.

P. DAVID HORNIK

Asked what he meant, he referred, first, to former prime minister Shimon Peres's strange penchant for hugging, kissing, and holding hands with the PA chief. "That was excessive," he acknowledged. "It seemed insensitive to the feelings of many in

He also referred to Rabin and Peres's joint acceptance, with Arafat, of the Nobel Peace Prize. gave the wrong signal," said the official. "I mean, here you had the two top representatives of the Jewish State, jointly receiving the

It's one thing to give Arafat political power; another to glorify him

world's most prestigious award for peace with a man who was the arch-terrorist of the 20th century. This might have been mitigated,

I pointed out, if Arafat was at least repentant. But that is hardly the case, considering his continuing to call for holy war against Israel, sheltering terrorists on his soil, and heading a regime that tortures people to death.

The official agreed. "I repeat," he said, "that I don't think we had any practical alternatives to Oslo. But that doesn't mean we had to ignore the principle that murder is murder is murder by treating Arafat as a noble visionary.

TALKING TO another wellplaced source in the party, I

Self-service in the military

t's now official: IDF Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon ipkin-Shahak has acknowledged that there is a serious problem of morale in the army and in the readiness of draft-age youth and reservists to serve.

Only a week ago President Ezer Weizman, a former defense minister and IAF commander, denied there was any such problem. The truth, as Weizman and all the other would be under-the-carpet sweepers well know, is that the problem has existed and has been growing in severity since at least the 1982

Lebanon War. . The main result of failing to openly recognize the problem is to ensure that nothing will be done

about it. Shahak and Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai have finally decided to come out of the closet. As banal as it may sound, setting up a committee to study the problem. as Mordechai proposes, is unavoidable.

Since the question of what has happened to our national morale encompasses so many aspects of our life, it would be a serious mistake to set up a narrowly focused in-house IDF or Defense Ministry committee. If there ever was a need for a prestigiously staffed state commission of inquiry this is certainly such a case.

Our religious and secular cultural traditions of the past 18 cen-The author is a writer and turies - since the bloody suppres-

YOSSI GOELL sion of the Bar Kochba revolt of 135 CE - have been vigorously anti-militaristic. Our deeply entrenched attitudes that military careers and values were reprehen-

sible began to change only in the 1940s, in response to the imminent demise of the Mandate and to helplessness of European Jewry in the face of the Holocaust.

We won the War of Independence in 1948 by the skin of our teeth because of a tremen-

ing such a fantastic army despite our contradictory heritage was nothing short of a miracle.

Such miracles can be reversed

easily if we do not exercise eternal vigilance against the periodic outcropping of our long-established instincts. That is why the most inquiry possible is needed to study and propose ways of dealing with this problem.

Israeli society has become

We must reverse the political and social legitimization of those who refuse to serve

dous outpouring of patriotism and a readiness of many to risk their lives for the future of the Jewish people. That victory, however, was won at a tremendous cost of over 6,000 killed because our earlier heritage did not allow us to field a very effective army. We had more morale than military know-how.

FEW TODAY remember how awful the IDF was in the early 1950s when the patriotic exhilaration of 1948 had begun to wear off. The IDF became the justly world-renowned army it is after the 1967 Six Day War. The fact that we were capable of develop-

much more materialistic and even hedonistic than it was in the past. It is thus essential that we radically alter the atmosphere in our schools, and the messages we convey in the media and bring them in line with our continuing security needs.

For example, I believe it is nothing short of madness to allow a self-confessed draft-dodger like rock star Aviv Geffen, who misses no opportunity to deride frierim (suckers) who volunteer for elite units, to appear in the media.

Are we still a nation under military threat? Is not peace around the corner? As a supporter of the

basic thrust of the Oslo initiative, I would argue that the late Yitzhak Rabin, if pressed to doff his politician's hat, would have been the first to admit that peace is not around the corner; that an agreement with our immediately surrounding Arab enemies was essential to permit us to concentrate our attention on the more deadly threats from more distant Arab and Moslem enemies

The problem of how to divide the security burden much more fairly is a very pressing one. This includes the need to train a much higher proportion of our conscript soldiers for front-line duty.

Soldiers who do serve in frontline combat units should be given preference in jobs, university admittance and housing mortgages. Conversely, men who refuse to serve, whether haredim, Arabs or conscientious objectors, should be taxed to provide funding for such preferential treatment for those who do. Above all, it is essential to reverse the political and social legitimization of those who refuse to serve.

We should also, at long last, get around to setting up meaningful and nationally useful alternative National Service posts and broaden the areas in which women can serve usefully in the army and in these other frameworks.

The writer comments on current

TO OUR READERS

Please note that the number 5 has been added to all the phone and fax numbers of the main office of The Jerusalem Post (all starting with the number 3).

For example, the phone number of the switchboard 315666 - is now 531- 5666

Other changes: the phone number of the J.P Funds is now 623-3986; of the Book Department and Post Mart, 624-1282, and their fax number is 624-1212.



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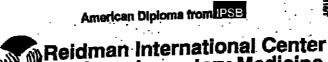
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for Complementary Medicine



GROZNY (Reuter) - Alexander ratist Lebed, Moscow's new peacemaker in Chechnya, yesterday scrambled for ways to end bitter fighting in the regional capital Grozny as thousands of civilians took advantage of a lull

to flee the city.

Lebed, to whom President Boris Yeltsin gave strong powers to settle the 20-month-old war, met army and civilian leaders at the Russian military base of Khankala outside Grozny to shape his peacemaking

He said after the meeting he now knew who to blame for allowing the separatists to seize most of Grozny 10 days ago. Lebed said he would name those responsible on his return to Moscow today.

"Some profit from the fighting," said Lebed, surrounded by body-guards armed to the teeth. "This is a commercial war."

Lebed, who has blamed his predecessors for a lack of progress in making peace in the mainly Moslem Caucasus region, said he planned to meet rebel leaders later last night.

Interfax said rebel leader Zelimkhan Yandarbiyev and sepathe battle.

LIMA (AP) - An electrical cable downed by a misfired rocket electrocuted 35 people, some of whom burst into flames as they watched a fireworks display in the southern Peruvian city of Arequipa, officials said yesterday.

Electricity surged through the bodies of the people packed onto a bridge to celebrate the 456th anniversary of the founding of Arequipa on Wednesday night, including that of a policeman killed when he tried to pull someone away from the current, authorities

Television footage showed dozens of motionless bodies, some aflame,

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Maskhadov would attend the talks in the village of Starye Atagi 25 km south of Grozny. As the gruff former paratroop gen-

eral talked, a flood of refugees heading out of Grozny seemed to gather strength. The city has been relatively calm since Wednesday as thousands of well-armed rebels consolidate their control following more than a week of the worst fighting the region has seen in 18 months.

Both separatists and Russian forces said the fighting had largely died down across the region, with only sporadic exchanges of fire.

"Overnight in Grozny and across Chechnya the separatists did not carry out organized and coordinated military operations," a Russian intenor ministry spokesman in Grozny

"In general, the situation is quiet across the region," rebel spokesman Moviadi Udugov told Reuters by telephone.

I saw hundreds of guerrillas in south and west Grozny, clearly in control of the area and relaxing after

35 electrocuted in Peru accident

strewn across the cobblestone span. Red-jacketed firemen and police in green uniforms scurried about, at one point trying to move the live cable with a long pole.

Police spokesman Gonzalo Rodriguez said 41 people were in hospital with burns.

A fireworks rocket fired into the air hit a 10,000-volt cable spanning the Grau bridge, where hundreds of people were gathered to watch the fireworks and a folk music show along the river's edge.

The cable snapped, exposing its copper wiring, and fell into the crowd, sending current charging

through dozens of people.

With deep sorrow we announce the passing of our beloved

ARNOLD ANDERMANN 7"

The funeral took place yesterday Thursday, August 15, 1996.

His wife, Llli Andermann Daughter and son-in-law, Yehudit and Yosef Efroni Grandchildren and their families

Shiva will be observed at the Andermann home, 10 Palmah St., Kiryat Ono.

In loving memory of

Dr. ERICH (Burschi) **NEUBERGER**

who passed away on July 30, 1988. Sadly missed and remembered by His loving wife Foga

To our Mom and Grandma

MICHAL HALEVI

We share your sorrow at the loss of

BENJAMIN 5"

A devoted husband, father, grandfather and great-grandfather who, with deep conviction and passion, contributed so much to

ERETZ YISRAEL

The Family

A memorial ceremony and unveiling of the tombstone for the late

FREDA SIMBLER

will take place at the Sde Yehoshua Cemetery, Haifa, (Gate Alef) on Monday, August 19, 1996, at 5:15 p.m. Transportation will leave from 9 Heinrich Heine Square at

Family and friends are invited to meet immediately afterwards at the Blumfield residence, 26a Shlomzion Hamalka St., Carmelia, Haifa.

4:45 p.m.

Family and friends

On Sunday, August 18, 1996, the tenth anniversary of his death we will remember

YOHANAN BOEHM

Distinguished Citizen of Jerusalem Long-time music editor of The Jerusalem Post Founder of the Jerusalem Municipal Youth Band

The Family



Bob Dole gestures as he secures the Republican nomination for president while watching television coverage of the convention in San Diego. Dole's wife Elizabeth (from left), Iowas Senator Charles Grasley, and Joanne and Jack Kenip, the vice-presidential candidate look on-

Dole claims nomination

IN the proudest moment of his long political life, Bob Dole claimed the Republican nomination last night and launched a campaign against President Clinton on themes of character, leadership and tax cuts.

"We're going to win this campaign, we're going to win on Nov. 1996," Dole said after the roll call of states awarded him the nomination in a frenzy of sign waving and confetti throwing.

"Now, as Bob becomes the official nominee, we'll be able to get our message out," his wife, Elizabeth, yesterday told ABC TV's "Good Morning America." Running mate Jack Kemp

pledged to his disabled boss, whose arm was shattered by enemy fire in World War II: "I'm going to be Bob Dole's right arm. I'm going to be his right hand."

Battling to overcome Clinton's persistent lead, the plain-spoken Kansan closed the convention with a prime-time speech before the largest audience of his life. The closely guarded 40-minute address, four months in the making, was rewritten right up to the

There was seven-minutes of video images of Dole's boyhood in the small town of Russell, TERENCE HUNT SAN DIEGO

Kansas, during the Depression, his struggle as a disabled veteran and his rise to power in the Congress where he served 35 years. But Dole faces a difficult road to the White House.

Traditionally, Americans are reluctant to evict an incumbent who can boast that the nation is at peace, the economy is expanding and jobs are growing. The elec-toral map and polls showing concem about Dole's age - hc's 73 suggest he needs a comeback of

historic proportions. Dole's economic package promises to cut income tax 15 percent across-the-board, slash capital-gains taxes by half and award lower and middle-income families a \$500-per-child tax credit.

The White House calls the program a budget-busting nightmare. Tonight we ask Bob Dole to answer his country's call again and stand a post for America - the first post of the tand - not for his sake, but for ours," said Arizona Sen. John McCain.

'We're on the map!" said Dole. fighting back tears as McCain put his name in nomination. The Clinton campaign shot back night," he quipped.

South African justice

minister flees death threats

with sarcasm about Dole's taxcutting program.

Which Bob Dole will show up (last night) - the Bob Dole who for 35 years fought budget deficits or the Bob Dole who last week was converted to supply-side economics?" asked Clinton campaign press secretary Joe Lockhart. Democrats distributed a 13-page critique of Dole's legislative record, calling him "Beltway

When the Kansas delegation put Doie's nomination over the top, Dole declared, "All right." He stood up, hugged his wife, Elizabeth and reached out to shake the hand of his campaign manager, Scott Reed. "We made it. Scott." Mrs. Dole watched television with Dole, curled up on the floor at his feet. Earlier, she delighted delegates with an unprecedented stroll on the convention floor with tesumonials for her husband.

She called Dole 'my own personal Rock of Gibraltar" and warned him she might say some drugs that her famously reticent husband "would never be willing to talk about.

Back in his hotel room, Dole approved of her speech. "I think i'll let her give mine tomorrow

Tough talking Ciller arrives in Cyprus

NICOSIA (AP) - Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller came to the Turkish Cypriot part of this tense. divided island yesterday to push her government's tough stance on the decades-long conflict.

Hours before her arrival here, Ciller warned Greek Cypriots that Turkey would not hesitate to use force in case of threats to its territorial integrity or attacks on its flag.

We break the hands that reach out in disrespect of the flag.

Ciller told a raily in the southern Turkish town of Ceyhan. A day earlier. Turkish troops fired on stone-throwing Greek Cypriots Wednesday in the buffer zone splitting the island, killing one demon-

strator as he tried to climb a flagpole to haul down the Turkish flag. Wednesday's death followed the funeral of a man who was beaten to death Sunday after Greek Cypriots stormed into the UN-patrolled zone between the Greek Cypriot south and Turkish Cypriot north.

Her one-day trip to the island was apparently planned to reaf-firm Turkey's backing of the

Turkish Cypriots. Cyprus has been divided since 1974 when Turkish troops invaded following a coup backed by Athens in the island.

"We won't allow any violation

of border lines. We won't allow any attacks on the flag," said Ciller, who is also deputy premier. Turkey and Greece almost came to war earlier this year when Turkey laid claim to an islet in the eastern Aegean Sea.

The ex-prime minister was apparently also trying to snag her share of headlines after Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan, whose Islamic-inspired Welfare party dominates the coalition, went to Iran a few days earlier to

seal a gas deal. Ciller scheduled her trip to Cyprus to follow a visit to the Turkish port town of Yumurtalik to review preparations before the opening of an oil pipeline with Iraq under the United Nations' approval. Ciller blamed the Greek Cypriots for the violence, saying:

These provocative actions must come to an end. Peace and security can't be established like this." Turkish Cypriots declared their independence in their part of the island in 1983. Their self-declared republic is recognized only by Turkey. The Greek Cypriot govern-

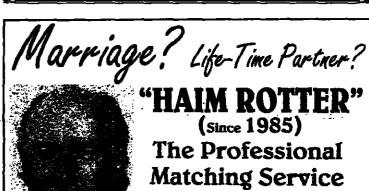
ment is internationally recognized. Greek Premier Costas Simitis said he would attend the second Greek Cypriot victim's funeral on the divided island today.



and distinguished board member RABBI KENNETH BRANDER

BOCA RATON SYNAGOGUE

and the synagogue family mission on their visit to the rabbi's alma mater ברוכים הבאים



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CAPE TOWN (AP) - Death threats have forced South Africa's justice minister to flee his home in The government has not detailed the sedition charges against Edries, who next appears in court on Sept. 17, but prosecutors have spokesman Paul said the charges relate to his leadsentences for drug offenders. ership role in Pagad, which has South Africans of mixed-race

a Cape Town neighborhood where gangs and anti-drug vigilantes are Ministry Setsetse said yesterday that Justice Minister Dullah Omar and his

family moved to an undisclosed location earlier this week. Setsetse refused to say whether the threats came from gang members or from supporters of People

Against Gangsterism and Drugs or Pagad has denied it made any threats against the minister.

Tension has been mounting in Cape Town's impoverished, mixed-race suburbs since masked Pagad members shot and burned to death the leader of the Hard Living Kids gang, Rashaad Staggie, in front of his house on Aug. 4. The gangs have sworn vengeance, and one Pagad member has been gunned down. Nadthmie Edries, 37, a Pagad leader charged with sedition, was

(\$2,300) bond yesterday.

threatened to take on the state. A crowd of about 800 Pagad

supporters surrounded the court yesterday carrying placards that read "Justice Before Peace," "We Fear No One But Allah," and "Hands Off Pagad or Else."

Last Sunday thousands of Pagad supporters clashed with police during a march after a rally in a middle-class suburb that is a Pagad stronghold. Gangsters meanwhile waited for them in an impoverished area on the other side of police lines.

Staggie's twin brother, Rashied, has threatened a bloodbath if his brother's killers are not brought to

The justice minister, himself a Moslem, fled his home in the Pagad-dominated suburb of

released on a bond of 10,000 rands Rylands.

Omar's house has been under police guard since March, when armed Pagad protesters pushed their way into his home to demand stiffer bail conditions and heavier

descent, many of them Moslem, are concentrated in some of Cape Town's poorest neighborhoods as a result of discriminatory apartheid policies. For decades, gangs have attracted young men with little hope of jobs or education, and a recent upsurge in drug dealing has made the gangs more powerful and vicious. Most mixed-race South Africans

in Cape Town trace their ancestry to Moslem slaves who were brought to the country from Malaysia in the 19th century. Islam in South Africa contains a strong conservative element that believes in tough punishment, and that coupled with frustration over the seeming inability of the police to combat crime has fueled the vigilante campaign.

American visitor."The memory alone reminds us of times past. Before leaving for home,

Christopher went on Bosnian television and said that he saw

glimmers of coming peace on

his last visit, six months ago.

Sarajevans thank Christopher for helping their nation

SARAJEVO (AP) - The people of Sarajevo, liberated from war and headed toward elections. poured from their bomb-scarred homes yesterday to thank US Secretary of State Warren Christopher for help rebuilding

their lives and their nation.
His visit, with walks through streets still bearing the blood-stains of combat, almost took on the air of a political campaign. Christopher shook hands and hefted small children in his arms. One, fourth grader Edin Osiljicic, told him brightly that he had gotten all Bs in the last school year.

Christopher stopped at a gro-cer to buy a bunch of grapes. At

other stops he accepted a gift of a whisk broom and a T-shirt inscribed "Sarajevo '96." In front of a convenience

store, a heavyset Bosnian wearing a dark T-shirt, smiling broadly, clapped Christopher on the back and said, "Bravo, Christopher." In broad sunshine Christopher placed a wreath of red and

white carnations at a memorial to 17 Sarajevans killed and more than 100 injured by a Serb shell while standing in line to purchase bread in May 1992. "This was the beginning of our

horror," Sabira Hadzovic, presi-

"Today in Sarajevo, I saw that the people of Bosnia are rebuilding their lives and their country in this summer of hope. he said Bosnian President Alija Izetbegovic, who arrived with

Christopher from Geneva, said yesterday's reopening of Sarajevo's airport was "yet another step toward freedom and the world to which we before

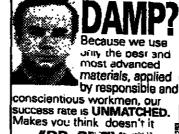
dent of the local canton and Christopher's guide told the

Korea student clashes continue

SEOUL (AP) - Bloody battles raged for the fourth day yesterday at a Seoul campus between riot police and militant students calling for unification with communist North Korea. The confrontation came as South Korean President Kim Young-sam renewed his offer of massive economic aid to North Korea it the impov-

erished country agrees to peace talks. But the move was ignored at Yonsei University, where volleys of tear gas fell like hail, and a dozen choppers rained yellow tear gas solution to disperse 7,000 students who had gathered for a pro-unification rally. Students fought back, beating police with neavy metal pipes and throwing stones and firebombs. Stones, bricks and broken glass littered the fampus thoroughfare. Burnt remains of thes, desks and chans see alight by students were left to smolder.

Earlier, police had used excavators and trucks to tear down the steel main gates of the school, an elite university known for anti-government activism.



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NEWS IN FOCUS

Friday, August 16, 1996

Concern mounts as Turkey romances radical states

Changes in Turkey's political landscape are affecting accords with Israel, leading to questions about the future, Steve Rodan writes

AVID Ivry sits in his Tel Aviv office at the Defense Ministry waiting for a phone call from Ankara.

After months of lobbying, Ivry had been preparing to fly to the Turkish capital earlier this month to sign an agreement on cooperation between the defense industries of Turkey and Israel. But suddenly the Turks requested that Ivry postpone his trip and then suggested that the accord would never be signed. Instead, some Turks suggested that Ankara sign a military

cooperation accord with Iran. So, these days, Ivry and his aides sit in stony silence. "No, there has not been a date set and we are not commenting about anything having to do with Turkey," a Defense Ministry spokeswoman

Less than two months after he became Turkey's first Islamist prime minister, Israeli officials are concerned that Necmettin Erbakan might actually be an ideologue who means what he says. Calling Israel a "timeless enemy," the prime minister has defied much of his government as well as the Turkish army in braking what had been a speedy process toward a military alliance with Israel.

"There is a growing struggle between Erbakan, the foreign ministry and the army over continuing ties with Israel," an Israeli official says. "The military is giving Erbakan some room to speak his mind while setting limits on policy. The problem is we don't know what these limits are."

Instead, to the consternation of Foreign Minister Tansu Ciller, Erbakan has forged a new policy

that stresses Islamic unity. The Turkish prime minister visited Teheran this week and signed a \$23 billion agreement for the supply of Iranian gas to Turkey. This, while some of his ministers were in Iraq for the first time in six years for high-level discussions over such issues as water and Kurdish rebels.

Erbakan's goal is a Turkishsponsored summit that would include such bitter enemies as Syria, Iran, and Iraq to discuss the Kurdish rebels, particularly those operating in northern Iraq and southern Turkey, as well as US and Israeli activities in the Middle

Today, few policymakers in Israel believe Erbakan is not serious. For years, he has railed against Turkey's membership in NATO, its cooperation with the US in the Gulf war and the enforcement of UN resolutions against Baghdad. His most vigorous fight was against the military cooperation between Turkey and

Erbakan says he wants to replace Turkey's alliance with the West with that of Islam. He has forged connections with Islamic militants from Iran to Egypt's Moslem Brotherhood, to Hamas in Gaza. Indeed, as deputy prime minister 20 years ago, Erbakan launched efforts to introduce Islam into Turkish government and society.

As a government minister in the late 1970s, Erbakan thought his embrace of Islam would provide instant solutions. The disappointment came quickly when Saudi Arabia, one of his first stops,



Iraqi President Saddam Hussein shakes hands with Turkish Education Minister Mehmet Saglam while receiving him and the justice minister in Baghdad this week. The meeting reflects Turkish Prime Minister Necmettin Erbakan's goals for an eventual summit that would include Iran, Iraq and Syria to discuss US and Israeli activities in the Middle East.

for oil and credit.

Still, Erbakan pressed on with an Islamic agenda even as he headed for a collision course with the army. In 1980, he organized a huge rally in which he called for the national anthem to be played. Most of his colleagues, including senior politicians, demonstratively remained seated.

The Turkish military, fed up with the growing anarchy in the

quickly turned down his request country, responded by launching a after 27 years in politics. coup. Many politicians were arrested. Erbakan served three years in prison.

The irony, says Aryeh Shmuelevitz, a professor and expert on Turkey at Tel Aviv University's Dayan Center for Middle East Studies, is that Erbakan, who insists he is a true secularist, has boarded the bandwagon of Islamic fundamentalism for his own political ends. Indeed,

Erbakan's real positions remain

"The man is unpredictable," Shmuelevitz says. "His words are so unclear."

Erbakan resumed his activities upon his release from prison. His targets remained Israel and the West. One chapter in his Welfare Party's 1991 platform was entitled "Imperialism, Zionism and

fashion shows. The Islamic network is closed to outsiders but benefits its members."

So far, Erbakan has been cautious in implementing his anti-West policy. The new prime minister did not oppose the fivemonth extension of Operation Provide Comfort, the multinational air operation, based in Turkey, that seeks to deter Iraq from attacking civilians. The operation also enforces a no-fly zone in northern Iraq.

The concern among Israeli policymakers is that Erbakan will maintain relations with the NATO and the US while downgrading ties with Israel. The move would attempt to mollify his fundamentalist Islamic allies within the Welfare Party who want Turkey to

end its pro-West orientation.

Israel will be the first to pay, a government analyst says. "Perhaps in later stages, NATO and the US will follow. But there is no question that we are an easier target than them."

Government analysts say Erbakan has to perform a juggling act to remain in power. Besides the fundamentalist agenda, many of his Welfare Party colleagues are Kurds, who want an easing of the army offensive against the Kurdish rebels in southeastern Turkey. This has led to Erbakan's initiative of a regional effort to solve the Kurdish question, something most Israeli and Turkish analysts doubt will succeed.

At the same time, Erbakan wants quick changes in Turkey's economy. In an attempt to obtain support, he approved a 50 percent increase in salary for government workers. Now, he is working on winning major contracts from Iran and the Arab world that would help ease Turkey's growing unemployment and dampen its high inflation.

If he succeeds in making headway, the analysts say, Erbakan will call for elections sometime in mid-1997. Until then, he will act cautiously, despite the pressure from within his party.

Erbakan is not willing to (Continued on Page 8)

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Binnaz Toprak, a professor at

Bosphorus University in Istanbul.

says Erbakan has benefited from a

rise of Islam in Turkey. She says

that Erbakan's ascent to power

culminated a long campaign to

replace secular society in Turkey

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I Y Yigal Amir: What it says about our schools

The emergence of a Yigal Amir fan club is regarded by some as a result of the religious schooling system but by others as a platform for typical teenage rebellion, reports Jessica Steinberg

for fanatic; as in one who expresses impulses and drives characterized by uncritical devotion. Fan clubs are often focused around people or groups that are on the fringes of society, those whose style, sound or opinions reflect the margins, rather than the main body of our culture.

According to local clinical child psychologist Dr. Stuart Chesner, adolescents are particularly attracted to fan clubs, as they are a forum that allows them to express impulses of a sexual or

aggressive nature.
The Yigal Amir fan club, set up by three girls in a Kiryat Gat school, is no exception, says Chesner, because it falls along the same lines, as an expression of rebellion against the standards

of society. "That is the norm for adolescents because they're searching for their identity and they're struggling with their internal impulses," he says. "Adolescents crave passion in life and given their unconscious sexual aggressive impulses, some act with biatant inappropriateness while most can draw the line." Adolescents tend to draw that invisible line at a place that is uncomfortable for the adults surrounding them, such

THE WORD FAN is short as dyeing their hair purple, listening to raucous rock music espousing Satan worship or organizing a fan club worshipping their prime minister's assassin.

Chesner characterizes the Yigal Amir fan club as one of those situations that crosses the lines of what is acceptable according to adult society. "They're not doing it because they think that Amir is such a great figure," he explains. "Creating a fan club doesn't stem from any kind of intellectual understanding of the issues, and it's not done out of philosophical reasoning.

"It's just their basic emotional drive, and trying to redirect that drive with educational values and lessons won't work and won't change the phenomenon."

Chesner touches upon the current battle being waged between the Education Ministry and certain members of the Knesset Labor faction who have sharply criticized the religious state education system, saying that religious students are isolated from democratic influences and calling for an end to the separation between religious and secular educational institutions. The fan club members, Kiryat Gat school and the Ministry of Education have insisted that this is an isolat-



Yigal Amir in court: Psychologist Stuart Chesner characterizes the fan club as 'one of those situations that crosses the lines of what is acceptable according to adult society.

ed phenomenon; not one that is prevalent throughout the religious school education system. Education Minister Zevulun Hammer stated that the national religious school system condemns right-wing extremism and has been combating such trends with programs and courses in

coexistence and religious tolerance. According to Chesner, lessons in coexistence are not going to solve the problem. "An adolescent has very little awareness of their emotional forces," he says. "What they need to be doing is discussing the confusion that they're experiencing and

exploring how that confusion is manifesting itself. If you look at the educational system on an ideological level, you have to connect that ideology with passion in order to modify an adolescent's

Chesner also points out that debating what types of religious texts will be used to teach teenagers right from wrong is not necessarily the issue here. The education ministry has been emphasizing the Jewish element in discussing the Rabin assassination, utilizing Jewish values and Jewish texts which they believe will illustrate the need to think in terms of tolerance and mutual understanding within society.

AT MELITZ, a non-profit organization that specializes in informal, pluralistic education for the Israeli community, director Avraham Infeld finds fault with the ministry's educational direction on this issue.

Infeld comments that by separating those who teach democratic lessons from those who focus on religious education, the distinction is made between the concepts and an opportunity is given to conclude that they are separate issues. If the Ministry of Education wants to solve this matter, they must see that those involved in Jewish education, namely those teaching texts and sources, must also be able to deal with and teach democratic educational values," he says.

Infeld cautions that the religious Zionists should treat the fan club as a wakeup call, warning them about the fringe impulses within their midst and protecting themselves against such elements. "You should see the kids I meet and the things I hear," he continues. "Yes, the club is an aberration and many people in the religious world were shocked and horrified by it and what it represents. But there are students who see no connection between Jewish and democratic values and they must be taught to see the connection between the two." Melitz works very intensely

both secular and religious, attempting to breach cultural elements that are often exacerbated in the national school system. Shalom Orzach, director of the international department at Melitz, stresses the need to recognize what he considers to be the growing imbalance in a typical Israeli high school religious Zionist education.

The question is how to teach religious kids about religion and Zionism." says Orzach, a knittedkippah-wearer who somewhat disparages the trend toward utilizing simplistic Jewish law theory and biblical analogies in coexstence education.

"It's not the same in secular. schools where they have the ability to deal with differences. In religious schools, they tend to think that their way is the only way, that they know 'the truth.' They're very into these patronizing phrases."

It's a question of reprioritizing," he adds. We need value clarification, we need to find our own answers, we need to establish a level of debate regarding these

CHESNER would agree, charging that it's the adults' responsibility to help adolescents redirect and redefine their internal thoughts and experiences, letting them find healthier outlets. For now, the Education Ministry is continuing to invest heavily in their current courses and programs, insisting that they've received favorable responses from the students, and emphasizing that the Yigal Amir fan club is an exception to the rule.

"Fan clubs are isolated to particular individuals," says a ministry spokesperson. "What they need is some education, and with Israeli high school students,

(Continued from Page 7) commit suicide to implement an Islamic platform," a government analyst says. "He made a religion a kind of tool to fulfill his ambi-

A senior government official agrees. "Erbakan is promising much more than he can deliver, he says. "He's in partnership with Ciller and therefore has to show

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that he's independent." Most Israeli officials don't

believe Erbakan will do anything drastic against Israel. Indeed, they say the Turkish prime minister might have succeeded in convincing much of the Arab world to drop its opposition to the existing military cooperation between Turkey and Israel. They say Erbakan defended Turkey's mili-

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tary cooperation agreement in talks with Iranian leaders and offered them a similar accord.

One government official points out that one of Erbakan's first acts as prime minister was to study the secret Turkish-Israeli military accord. Erbarkan, the official says, concluded that the accord is not against Turkey's interest in the Arab world and

TURKEY

told this to visiting Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

Erbakan's success in winning over the Arabs won him some credit in the military. So, when the prime minister moved to postpone the Ivry visit, the army did

"So far Erbakan hasn't done anything [against Israel]," the Davan Center's Shmuelevitz says. "He is operating in parallel situation. He is trying to build ties with the Islamic world. But he has made a calculation that it is not worth starting up with Israel,"

Some Israeli officials disagree.
They say Abdullah Gul,
Erbakan's foreign policy adviser,
has proven to be the most effective director of Turkey's foreign policy, undermining the credibili- Officials say the Turkish military, ty of Ciller and the Foreign no matter how upset it is, will Ministry.

the assertions of the Foreign Ministry, insisted tvry would not be coming to Turkey to sign the defense industrial cooperation agreement with Israel. He added that he did not expect Turkey to sign another defense pact with

The Foreign Ministry is a sep-arate ministry," Gul told reporters on August I. "I am speaking according to the prime minister.

Moreover, as prime minister Erbakan has refused all Israeli appeals for a dialogue. He has failed to respond to a message sent by Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu. Israeli officials add that he has even prevented Welfare Party moderates from talking to the Israeli Embassy in Ankara.

Instead, Erbakan has allowed the military and the Foreign Ministry to relay messages to Israel. In one recent message, Turkish defense officials told their Israeli counterparts that the military wants to continue coop-eration with Israel. They said they perceived it as being in their national interests," a government source says.

On Friday, Ciller told Isrrel's ambassador to Ankara, Zvi Alpeleg that her government remains committed to its accords with Israel. She also repeated that she must approve all major foreign policy decisions made by

Israeli Foreign Ministry officials hope that Erbakan will agree to lvry's visit soon after his return from this week's Asian tour. In Ankara, Ivry hopes to sign several agreements with Turkey, including a \$650 million deal for Israel to upgrade Turkey's F-4

Phantom jets.
Still, the Foreign Ministry is not ruling out further delays. probably not repeat its 1980 Two weeks ago, Gul, disputing takeover, particularly over an issue that involves Israel. Indeed. ing the army takeover, Turkey downgraded relations with Israel to the level of second secretary.

"Erbakan will go to the brink," one official says. "It's reasonable to think that he will take steps, both symbolic and substantial, to stop or slow down the normalization with Israel. It's a scenario we are taking into account. But this is a long way from cancelling the accords or severing relations. This won't happen tomorrow. Even though we don't expect a honeymoon with Israel, we don't expect a disaster either."

In the end, Israeli officials say what counts will be the US reac-tion to Erbakan. Officials were disturbed by what they perceived was the encouragement by some in the Clinton administration to allow Erbakan to head the Turkish government. Later, the US said a secular Turkey is not a condition for relations with Washington.

Israeli officials now say Washington has been turned around. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns this week praised the Israeli-Turkish military accord, something US officials rarely did in the past. To Israeli officials, the statement was a reminder to Ankara to resume the pro-Israel policies of

Holiday Gifts

the previous government.

Alan Makovsky, a senior fellow at the Washington Institute for Near East Policy, says the Clinton administration should keep Turkey as an ally but "nothing should be done to suggest warmth for or solicitousness to this particular government and its leader should be kept at arm's

length."
Makovsky, in a policy paper published last week by the Washington Institute, also advocates that Erbakan's words as well as his deeds be scrutinized. Turkey is a Western power, Makovsky says, and rhetoric such fidy or Zionist plots should not be tolerated.

Erbakan's trip to Iran convinced many in Washington that the new prime minister might prove dangerous to the US, Makovsky says. For one thing, he says. US officials now regard Erbakan as a major player, rather than a figurehead, in foreign pol-

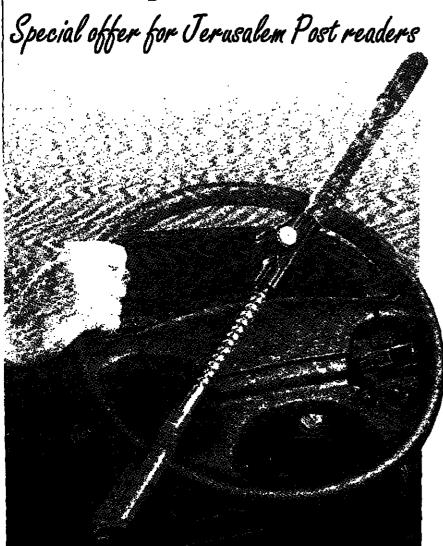
The next indication of Erbakan's intentions, Makovsky says, is the signing of the military accords with Israel, particularly the one that would upgrade the US F-4 jets in the Turkish air force. "If those get derailed, then we know we have a significant turn in Turkish policy," he says.

But, he adds, don't expect Washington to get directly involved to help Israel. The Clinton administration's priority will be maintaining its own ties with Ankara, particularly ensuring its membership in NATO.
"The US will draw important

policy inferences if something like that [a Turkish refusal to sign the accords with Israel] will happen," he says. "But I can't see the US trying to change a decision of that type. I can't see the US making that an issue on a par with NATO or Operation Provide Comfort or with ties to Iran."

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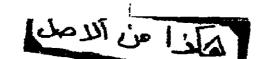
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A woman's job is never done

Esther Pollard, wife of imprisoned spy Jonathan, talks about her just-ended hunger strike, which aimed to stimulate awareness about her husband's plight. Judy Siegel-Itzkovich reports

ERUSALEM'S downtown "Triangle" is a mecca for people seeking immediate gratification. Hunger and thirst are quenched with pizza, ice cream and fashionable fruit-flavored iced tea. An impulse for a new shirt, dress or piece of jewelry is appeased with a quick dash into a trendy shop and payment by cred-

The Jerusalen

How ironic that such a materialistic location was chosen by one woman to starve herself in a desperate effort to free her husband convicted spy Jonathan Pollard from prison and to save his life.

Yesterday was the 19th and last day of Esther Pollard's hunger strike outside the Hamashbir Le'Tzarchan department store; doctors say the average person can live without food for about two months. Lying on a foam-rubber mattress and pillows under the eaves of the building, she spent eight hours a day in the intense August heat. Her routine started

Hamashbir - she received no response from the premier or his aides to her letters and appeals. "A well-known foreign attorney who was never authorized to speak on our behalf interfered in the dealings between the Prime Minister's Office and myself," Pollard claims.

The government has many means and tools at its disposal, both tactical and diplomatic; the premier can avail himself of these to convey a very clear message to Mr. Clinton that the only acceptable response is the immediate release of Jonathan Pollard and his immediate return home to Israel. Netanyahu knows exactly how to play these cards in order to make the pressure on the

president unbearable. National Religious Party faction leader MK Hanan Porat visited Pollard on Monday and suggested inviting her to the Knesset building, having Transport Minister Yitzhak Levy raise the Pollard issue in the plenum and demanding that Netanyahu contact

been turned down three times by the US president. "He has been the scapegoat exploited by antisemitic elements within the US administration, to call into question Israel's reliability as an ally," she declares.

"What I am doing is neither fun nor easy," she says with a sigh. But we have no other choice. We've tried everything else: demonstrations, full-page newspaper advertisements, letter-writing campaigns. My husband is dying by inches, and there is no other way to save him."

The department store's showcased mannequins, with their frozen smiles and fashionable clothes, are Pollard's constant companions. But throughout the day, she was visited by a steady stream of sympathizers - young and old, religious and secular who shook her hand, inquired about her health, signed her petition and wished her success.

Wearing her trademark bluejeans dress with long sleeves, stockings, a wig covering her hair (for religious and practical reasons), her face devoid of makeup and her tongue coated white, the Canadian-born woman initially vowed she wouldn't eat again until her husband is free. Chief Rabbi Yisrael Meir Lau implored her to stop fasting. Former chief rabbi Mordechai Eliahu, whom her husband regards as "his rabbi" and who visited him last week, "blessed me and did not tell me to stop." Eliahu was present at her meeting with the premier yesterday at which the decision was taken to end the strikle.

Pollard, who was in solitary confinement for seven out of his 11 years in high-security prisons, calls her every day from the penitentiary in Butler, North Carolina. There are 200 prisoners and two pay telephones in his wing. He has to wait in line for his turn, but he does it," says Esther, who was born to a traditional Montreal family over 40 years ago and has become increasingly observant in recent

SHE FIRST MET him during a youth program in Israel in 1971, but each returned home and they had no further contact. Six years ago, she was a volunteer working as an intern for a government inistry in Jerusaler ing English at the Hebrew University when a friend showed her a newspaper article asking people to write to Jonathan Pollard in prison. "I didn't remember his name and had never heard of his case, but I write letters at the drop of a hat... I always carry aerograms around with me. I wrote him a letter. About 25 letters were brought to him in his cell, and he was allowed only two stamps. He decided to send both

Their correspondence became more intense, and she soon became Pollard's chief spokeswoman. Three years ago, Esther (a childless divorcee who had married young and for a short time) and Jonathan (who had previously divorced his wife Anne, who had served a prison sentence for her involvement in the affair) married in prison. Esther declines to give details. After the prison wedding, she made a "good living" teaching special-education classes for disabled children in Toronto. All her income went to support the campaign. "My monthly phone bill alone is \$1,000. We never raised funds. I don't know where money raised allegedly in Jonathan's

name has gone.' In their three years' of marriage, Pollard says, she has frequently been maligned in the press and by some in the Jewish community. "They claimed we never married, that I was unbalanced."

Asked to explain how any rational woman could fall in love with a man sentenced to life imprisonment, she says: "I have had many trials and tribulations in my life, but all were preparation for being Jonathan's wife. He is a mensch. He is a Jewish hero," she says. "I never had any shortage of dates," recalls Pollard, who in her youth -then named Elaine Zeitz - had long dark hair and striking looks. "But I was always lonely. Since I married Jonathan, even when I am an ocean away from him, I've



Esther and Jonathan Pollard at their wedding in prison.

with waking at dawn in a room Clinton about it immediately. lent to her by a woman supporter before then going to a nearby public relations office, which had donated its phones and fax machines for her use. By 10 a.m. she would be outside Hamashbir. With a water bottle in one hand and a cellular phone in the other, she held her hunger strike to arouse the Jewish people to the plight of her husband. "I ask them not to worry about me, but to pray for my husband. Yonatan ben Malka, to recite Psalms and light Shabbat candles for him."

Over 70,000 people have so far

signed her petition demanding that Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu take urgent, determined action so that US President Bill Clinton will immediately commute Jonathan's life sentence. Some came specially to see her from as far away as Ma'alot and Eilat. They brought flowers for Shabbat, copies of letters they had sent to him in prison, even juice and soup that she would not allow herself to ear. She says her diet during the strike consisted of only water, sugar and salts (electrolytes) to reduce the risk of collapse Occasionally, a doctor would volunteer to check her blood pressure, but she was not under regular medical supervision. Before ending the strike, she noted: "I don't feel hungry anymore. The body thinks there's a famine and nearly shuts down the metabolism. But it does make me weak." She fainted after only two days of fasting and was rushed to Bikur Holim Hospital, but refused to eat and was discharged after being treated intravenously.

She chose the top of Ben-Yehuda Street for her hunger strike because "lots of people pass by here. She came to Jerusalem for her protest and not the street adjacent to the White House because she was dissatisfied with Netanyahu's past efforts on her husband's behalf. She denies statements by the Prime Minister's Office that he raised the Pollard case with Clinton during the two leaders' recent meetings in the White House. And -

until her 17th day outside

minutes in what she called "a very good encounter. He understood that I haven't gone on the hunger strike to embarrass or hurt him." A Netanyahu spokesman said he told her about his efforts to achieve Jonathan Pollard's release and promised her the government would continue to work towards his release." Netanyahu appealed to her to halt her hunger strike so she could "continue as an important part of the struggle for his release," but she refused until a second meeting with the premier last night. After the first meeting she said: "For over a year, my husband

Communications Minister Limor

Livnat sat with Pollard at the

Knesset, was favorably impressed

and urged the premier to see her.

Netanyahu met with her for 40

wouldn't even consider my going on a hunger strike. He would have liked to do it himself, but he would be severely punished for it in prison. And now, both he and I know that if I resumed eating, two days later everyone will forget him. My condition reflects the deterioration of his condition. He works hard physical labor. His immune system is shot. I don't know how much longer he can

UNLIKE the handful of other Americans who spied for US allies and were sentenced to only two to four years' imprisonment, Pollard got life, and his requests for clemency or commutation have

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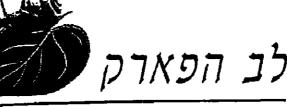
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Stopover in lunatic land on the way to the perfect place

Israel is on the migratory route - for 'hippies,' Larry Derfner writes

HEY move in and out of the hos-tels on Tel Aviv's Allenby Road and Ben Yehuda Street, and in Jerusalem's Old City. They camp at Lake-Kinneret and wash dishes in the pubs of

Fairer-skinned and lighter-haired than most natives, they're easily identifiable - at times walking around barefoot, and usually wearing expressions that, try as they might, don't hide their sense of vulnerability in Israel.

The derogatory term for them is "hip-pies," the more respectful one, "travelers." Relaxing on worn-out couches on the patio of The Home Hostel near Tel Aviv's Carmel Market, about a halfdozen told of being on the road for as long as three years. They're en route to or from Egypt, South Africa, the Far East and the rest of the world, and make a point of not knowing when they're going

"Traveling is day-to-day living. You don't know what you're going to wake up to, you don't know where you're going to be this afternoon, or tonight. It's like a roller-coaster ride," says Lisa 22 who left Australia after getting her BA in

Travelers at The Home Hostel include Dave, 30, a former London bricklayer with a shaven head and an upper body festooned with patriotic British tattoos; Dennis, 21, a mellow fisherman from British Columbia; Nico, 20, a shy, semiprofessional actor from Germany; Anna, 26, a Swedish, strikingly blonde college student in Middle Eastern studies; and Mark, 25, a talkative farrier from South

In Tel Aviv, they work on construction sites, clean houses, waitress or haul furniture, trying to save money for the next leg of their trips. At night, they drink

beer at The Buzz Stop, Leprechaun, Beers or a couple of other nearby pubs frequented by travelers, or they're sacked out in their rooms, tired from long, physical labor.

Israel, they say, is known on the inter-national traveler's circuit as a good place to get short-term work, and an easy jumping-off point to Asia, Europe or Africa. Volunteering at a kibbutz, though, is becoming less popular because it's not a way to save money.

They also don't have many positive things to say about Israelis. "On the job, it's always, Yalla, valla, chick-chack.' It's a yalla, yalla, chick-

chack country. They've got no pride in their work," Dennis says. They just paint over the old paint and splatter paint on the floor. If you did that in England, you'd get sacked on the

spot." Dave says. And sometimes, they've found, the

bosses don't pay up.

"Everybody here's gotten stiffed at one or time or another," Lisa says. "But I don't want to give the wrong impression. I've met some great Israelis, and some travelers say they didn't get paid by bosses who I know paid me. But it depends how things are going. If you depends how things are going. If you would have talked to me last week, I would have [been more negative about

Most Israelis are rude and obnoxious. but when they get to know you they'll roll out the red carpet for you," Mark

"The people in Tel Aviv need a good rain to cool them down a bit," Nico says. Everyone agrees with a sign on the patio refrigerator: "Such A Small Country, So Many Lunatics," written

Anna voices a Scandinavian's com-

'The people in Tel Aviv need a good rain to cool them down a bit,' says a traveler at Tel Aviv's Home Hostel.(Israel Suns

plaint: "Being blonde in this country isn't a blessing, it's a curse. Israelis assume right away that I'll go around the corner and have wild sex with them. And the way some of these women look at me - if looks could kill, I would have been

dead a long time ago." The Home is a sort of Little House on the Prairie among hostels. Travelers here are relatively settled; Lisa, for instance, has stayed on for 14 months. A few other hostels, they say, often draw 'dodgy" characters - drug users and wild types looking to party for a few

days and move on.

The atmosphere here is different instead of a dark, multistory building like other hostels, the Home is an old, white villa with a patio. Rent is NIS 24 a night. There are six beds to a room; other hostels have as many as 30 per room. Outdoor speakers blast rock

Travelers help each other out with money - if they know and trust each other. "Keep Your Money Safe," reads a

From Thieving Bastards," someone

scrawled underneath.

"We had a spate of thefts recently," says Aaron, the night manager. Nobody here does drugs, the Home's temporary residents maintain.
"We just drink beers after work," Lisa

says.
"Compared to the drug scene among Israelis in Tel Aviv," Nico says, rolling a tobacco cigarette, "I'd say the scene

among travelers is pretty clean." There was one drug-related tragedy at

the Home about four years ago, Aaron says - a traveler committed suicide in his

room by deliberately overdosing.
"If we catch people with drugs, we kick them out on the spot," he maintains,
Ordinarily, travelers say, the police
don't give them trouble. But police raided the Home and many other hostels early this year following media reports about young Israelis frying their brains with LSD in Goa, India, Lisa says.

"They [searched] our rooms and patted us down," she recalls, "but there wasn't anything for them to find."

EILAT, WHERE TRAVELERS stop on their way to Dahab in the Sinai, has gotten the reputation as a bad luck

You can tell when people come back from Eilat – they're like Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. They lose it, mentally and

physically." Aaron says. He finds it hard to put his finger on the reason, but suggests. There's less work and lower pay, so you can't save money, you can't make any progress. There are

more rip-offs, too. Another traveler explains, "There's nothing to do in Eilat so people just drink all the time and waste their

11.13

money. For all the spontaneity and carefree

quality of their lives, travelers take what they're doing seriously.

"I travel to learn," Lisa says. They can't explain what they are learn-

ing, except with general statement about all the different kind of people you meet," "all the different cultures" and getting involved in other people's lifestyles.

They say they have a goal, vague and all-encompassing as it is.

"I'm looking for my perfect place, my destiny, my niche." Dennis says. "I'll go to Africa, and if it's not there I'll go to Asia, and if it's not there I'll go to Central America and if it's not there I'll go to South America. And when the time comes that you can go to Mars, I'll go to

Their patience is running

Unequal schooling, the blood scandal and the Falash Mura problem still plague the Ethiopian community, Sue Fishkoff reports

Adisu Massala doesn't appear to be softening his political tone in deference to his new Knesset position.

Massala is widely acknowledged as the country's foremost Ethiopian activist. Ever since walking out of Ethiopia across the Sudanese desert adept at putting forward the partisan to Israel in 1980, he has been at the forefront of every demonstration for gently stroking the egos of govern-Ethiopian immigrant rights, and has been president of the United Ethiopian Jewish Organization - the umbrella group for all Ethiopian rights groups - since its inception. He's also the first Ethiopian address for government and international Jewish agencies, the person they turn to when they need a bridge to the Ethiopian immigrant community. He's worked with the Jewish

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TEWLY elected Labor MK Agency, the Absorption Ministry Adisu Massala doesn't and the Histadrut on Ethiopian affairs, and was flown to Addis Ababa to help out with the 36-hourairlift during Operation Solomon in May 1991.

By now he's a professional at the game of political give-and-take, interests of his community while ment officials holding the purse-Now as the Ethiopian communi-

ty's first Knesset representative, the stakes are higher, but so are the potential rewards.

IN HIS FIRST interview with The Jerusalem Post since his election, Massala wants to discuss the successes of his community before

turning to the many problems it continues to face. "Our first success is in the army," he states, noting that there are 62 Ethiopian-born IDF officers, including nine women. Approximately 95 percent of Ethiopian 18 year old males serve in the military, and their high motivation is often noted by IDF brass. That motivation, Massala says, stems from pride and a desire to integrate more quickly into native Israeli society. "We see military service as a right, not an obligation," he states. "It's our chance to return something of what the State has given us. Even boys with medical problems try to hide them so they can go to elite combat units, which they see as their entry ticket to

[sabra] society." Massala also points to the 1,000 Ethiopian university students and 80 graduates as another success for the community as a whole. According to an on-going survey by the JDC-Brookdale Institute, a leading research center on social issues, all those university graduates are employed in their fields except for men doing their compulsory military service and women who have cho-

sen to become full-time mothers. 'Israelis consider us a nice, polite, but disadvantaged community," Massala says, "That's not good enough. We want Ethiopian-born politicians, engineers, artists, actors, lawyers and soccer stars. Then our young people will be able to hold their heads up high."

Increased numbers of army officers and university students has not helped the community's social integration, he says, which continues to be the most vexing problem con-fronting Ethiopian immigrants today. Widespread educational imbalance is, he believes, at the root of the problem. He points a finger straight at the Religious Affairs Ministry, which decided in the mid-'80s and again following Operation Solomon to put all Ethiopian children into national religious schools, ostensibly on religious grounds.

In fact, Massala has charged for years, the decision was based on economic and political considera-tions. "Our children were put in failing schools that would have been closed down for lack of pupils if not for the influx of Ethiopians," he charges. Thousands of new pupils strengthened the bargaining position of the national religious schools when they requested greater funding, he continues. "It's kind of absurd, when you realize that on one hand, the rabbinate questioned our Jewish identity, and on the other hand, we were all put in religious

schools." And the Ethiopian children were not put in the better religious schools, Massala says, which only perpetuated the educational imbalance. "Weak teachers come to weak schools," he notes. "Our chil-

dren can't get ahead that way." Recently, efforts have been made to send Ethiopian children to integrated schools. JDC figures show that 95 percent studied in integrated schools as of December '95. Massala says that figure is decep-tive, claiming that the schools are still at least 80 percent Ethiopian, and the other 20 percent are children from troken or disadvantaged homes, who need as much extra help as the immigrants.

"If this government is serious about helping the Ethiopian community, it must first send our children to better schools, according to their percentage of the population," he declares. "The new school year is starting soon, and nothing has been done." "Education is the key to our future," he states. "In Israeli society, a BA is a minimum requirement for good jobs." Most Ethiopian parents, he continues, have no higher education at all, and work in factory or clerical positions for monthly wages of NIS 2,000. And Ethiopian families continue to be larger than typical sabra families. Consequently,



Massala: We want Ethiopian-born politicians, engineers, artists, actors, lawyers and soccer stars. Then our young people will be able to hold their heads up high.

there is no money left over for parents to supplement their children's education with trips to museums, films, computer games or even afterschool activities in community centers. All these things cost money, Massala notes.

"Ethiopian families aren't able to fill the holes left by the school system," he notes. He calls on the Education Ministry to offer quality afternoon programs for Ethiopian children in order to close that educational and social gap.

Massala also blasts the recommendations of the Navon Committee assigned to look into the Magen David Adom blood donation

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scandal, a committee to which he was appointed and from which he was later removed. The committee did not find a socially-acceptable solution to the problem, he charges, and continues the policy of "collective punishment" of the community as a whole.

"Sixty-thousand Ethiopian Jews have become 'suspicious objects," he charges. "And we don't lack stereotypes already. Adding a medical stigma hurts our absorption. None of us wants to endanger someone else's blood. When I donate blood, it's with all good intentions, to help society. We need a compromise. Why don't they take my blood and check it, like they do with English or American blood?"

Don't forget them MASSALA IS also very concerned about the Falash Mura, the approximately 4,000 Ethiopian Jews who converted to Christianity over the past century and who have now returned to Jewish practice and want to come to Israel. They live in a camp in Addis Ababa while their files are checked individually by an Interior Ministry official sitting in Jerusalem, About 100 are cleared for immigration each month.

One of Massala's campaign pledges was to find a swift, humane solution to the Falash Mura immigration bottleneck. While stating that he supports the policy of checking each individual claim, he insists that bureaucratic disregard is slowing the process down inexcusably.

After the elections, Massala wrote to the prime minister and the Interior Ministry, urging action on the Falash Mura. He was scheduled to meet with the Interior Minister this week, but Netanyahu has not responded to his appeal. "If there's no response by the High Holidays, we won't sit quietly," he warns. "We'll take action, we'll hold press conferences, and I promise you that I'll be leading them."

The patience of the Ethiopian community is wearing thin, Massala explains. The young generation is Israeli in every way, thank God," he notes. "They speak out aggressively, like Israelis, with plenty of huzpa.
If that generation doesn't see its situation improving, they won't sit on their hands as we did. They'll demonstrate and hold more protests." Time is running out, he continues. "If Israel doesn't solve." this problem, in a few years it will be too late, and all of society will suffer," he warns, "Israel today is paying the price of the absorption. mistakes of the 1950s. The country doesn't seem to have learned its les-

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CNN blurs reality in the face of real evil

NN's July 28th special.
Acts of Terror," presented in collaboration with Time magazine, should be studied in journalism schools.

The Jerusak

A STATE OF THE STA

It is a guide to the ills of the profession, but above all to the menace of anti-Israel bias. CNN anchor Bernard Shaw introduced the 90-minute program as a "report in depth" on both the Olympic bombing and the July 17th crash of TWA Flight 800 off Long Island.

Commentary turned to the topic of Middle East terrorism and "why the United States has been targeted with increasing frequency." Scott MacLeod, veteran correspondent for Time, provided the answer: Israel."

He said, "if the crash of TWA Flight 800 did have Middle East origins it is worth taking a closer look at why somebody might perform such a deed. Middle East terrorism is rooted in the conflicts that followed colonialism, Much of this violence has surrounded the creation of Israel.

When Jewish nationalists made their state, they did so at the expense of local Arabs, who lost homes, property and no less important, their dignity. That was nearly 50 years ago and the wounds have never healed," MacLeod continued; "Even

moderate Moslems believe that America gives Israel the green light to oppress Moslems. Washington is seen as the hand that controls puppet Arab regimes who made peace with Israel."

More particularly, according to the reporter, Islamic fundamentalist factions that have targeted America have done so because of Israel. The Lebanese Hizbullah group, which hit the US hard in

the 1980s, is upset with Israel's individualism and tolerance. American-supported attacks on southern Lebanon, which left scores of women and children dead. The Palestinian group Hamas is furious over America's

detention of one of its leaders. Musa Abu Marzook faces extradition to Israel." Neither Shaw nor co-anchor Judy Woodruff uttered a word of challenge to this nonsense. They did not distance themselves or their network from a report that scapegoated tiny, democratic Israel for the myriad forces that

spawn assaults on America. No one winced at MacLeod's failure even to mention Middle East despots that despise Incredibly, the program omitted any reference to Iran, Iraq, Libya, Sudan and Syria. The state of Israel alone was identified as the "cause" of terrorism.

GUEST COLUMNIST

ANDREA LEVIN

Let it be clear, first of all, that MacLeod's assertions about the creation of Israel are boilerplate propaganda. The Jewish restoration of Israel nearly fifty years ago was not a process of dispossession of native Arabs, regardless of the relentless claims to this effect that are written, broadcast, and taught in the Arab world and elsewhere.

Zionist development renewed a desolate and sparsely populated region, attracting 100,000 Arabs into Mandate Palestine between the World Wars. Indeed, the centers of Jewish concentration in Palestine were precisely those that drew the largest number of Arabs, while Arab towns grew little or declined. Zionism was an economic boon to most Arabs.

That the Arab world, spurred on by leaders such as Haj Amin el-Husseini, opposed the reconstitution of a Jewish nation, and rejected numerous proposals for territorial compromise, is part of the historical record. That the Arabs hurled themselves

ineffectually into repeated wars against Israel in an effort to obliterare the new state is also a fact. But if the failure thus far to erad-

icate Israel is an affront to Arab dignity, it is not the role of CNN to falsify history, to blame Israel for the aggression perpetrated against her, or to rationalize murderous the "CNN special" are dangerous not only because they incite viewattacks on America as an expression of wounded Arab feelings.

لكذا من ألاصل

Nor is it ethical to impute fault to Israel because Hizbullah terrorists on Israel's northern border hate all non-Islamic entities and vent their hatred against the nearest target, the Western-oriented Jewish state.

It is plain malice for MacLeod to parrot Hizbullah charges against Israel and to be silent about the decades during which Israeli communities have endured unprovoked shelling from Lebanon. Jewish children have been forced to flee regularly to bomb shelters and so pervasive is the threat that special ordinances require Israeli homes in the north to be constructed with walls capable of with-

standing 115 mm shells. The stupidities and omissions of ers against Israel. They are a peril because they distort and conceal vital information and obscure the sources of threat to America.

The message that Israel is the root cause of terrorism suggests that action by that nation would dampen the rage at America. Yel. no ceding of territory or other con-cessions to Palestinian Arabs would appease the Iranian mullahs, the Iraqi tyrant, or the Islamic Jihad terrorists. Their grievance is ultimately with the freedoms that the West reveres and Israel embodies.

Reporting of MacLeod's sort, blaming terrorism's victims and giving credence to the rationalizations of the perpetrators, all too often renders our media no more than purveyors of a blurred reality in the face of very real evil.

Look who's calling whom a 'mamzer'

A truth that's told with bad Beats all the Lies you can

invent. William Blake, "Auguries of Innocence'

THE TALMUD seems to be the source of the usage whereby a Jew's traveling to Eretz Yisrael, and from anywhere else in the land to Jerusalem, is spoken of as aliya/ascent, and those doing so are "olim/olot/ascenders."

One "goes up" to Eretz Yisrael. the Talmud tells us, because it is above all other lands. We derive this from Jeremiah 23:7-8, "And so the time is coming, says God, when people will no longer declare, By the God Who took the Children of Israel up from the land of Egypt, but [will say], 'By the God Who took the seed of the House of Israel up from the north country and from all the lands to which I banished them, and they shall dwell on their own soil'."

And one goes up to Jerusalem i.e. to the Temple for the pilgrimage-festival "ascent," the "aliva laregel" - because the Temple is above the rest of Eretz Yisrael. We derive this, the Talmud says, from Deuteronomy 17:8-9, "If there should arise a matter too difficult for you to judge... you shall go up to the place that God, your god, will have chosen [i.e. the Temple in Jerusalem], ...to the levitical priests and to the incumbent judge to ask..." (Kiddushin 69a).

The Talmud discusses this following the statement in Mishna Kiddushin 4:1 about the "ten genealogical lines [that] ascended from Babylonia to Eretz Yisrael."

This refers to the Return to Zion near the end of the sixth century BCE under the leadership of Zerubavel, Ezra and Nehemiah, after "God's anointed" king of Persia, Cyrus, who had just conquered the Babylonian empire, issued his proclamation calling on the Jews to return and rebuild the Temple. (See Ezra 1:1-4 and II Chronicles 36:22-23.)

There follows a discussion concerning the lines into which a fully fledged Jew may or may not marry. This discussion is summed up in the Shulhan Aruch, the canon of Jewish law as codified by Rabbi Yosef Karo, the 16th-century Sephardi scholar and mystic of Toledo and Safed, and modified for Ashkenazim by his younger contemporary, Rabbi Moshe

Isserles of Krakow. In the "Even Ha'ezer" section of the Shulhan Aruch, in Hilchot Pirya Verivya (Laws Concerning Reproduction) II:2, based on the relevant discussions in Talmud Kiddushin 69a-71b and Derech Eretz Rabba I, we read: "All [Jewish] families are presumed

kasher, and it is permissible to form marriage alliances with [any of] them.

But if you see two families [here Rabbi Isserles adds: or two individuals] always quarreling with each other, or if you see a family that is always involved in disputes, or an individual who is always quarreling with people and is extremely impertinent - the likes of these are suspect, and you should keep your distance from them, for such behavior and characteristics are indications that [they are not kasher].

"And whoever is constantly disqualifying others, such as by impugning families or individuals and saying they are mamzerim, thereby places himself under suspicion of being a mamzer. ...[F]or those who disqualify others are [themselves unfit and are] only projecting their own deficiencies onto those they disqualify. (Note this talmudic insight that preceded Freud by some two millennia. -

"And those who are impertinent, cruel, and misanthropic, not treating people kindly and compassionately, thereby place themselves under suspicion of being

AS FOR families whose halachic pedigree may be originally blemished, but who nevertheless somehow "disappeared" into the Jewish people, Rabbi Yitzhak declares: God extended a special grace to the Jews in that once a family has assimilated into the Jewish people, it remains part of the Jewish peo-

Please note: The Jewish-legal category of mamzer is not the same as "bastard" of the Anglo-American and some other legal systems. A mamzer, who may marry only another mamzer or a proselyte but not a kasher Jew, is a child born of an incestuous relationship, of a relationship between a married woman and a man other than her husband, and of certain other relationships forbidden by

A "bastard" is a child "born out of lawful wedlock." Though a North Dakota court once ruled that the term applies also to a child born after marriage "but under circumstances which render it impossible that the husband of his mother can be his father" (Black's Law Dictionary, 1979

As for the Gibeonites: They were one of the "Seven Canaanite Nations" whom Joshua was supposed to dispossess, but who converted to Judaism under false pretenses. They became a symbol of

cruelty after demanding of King David that seven of King Saul's killing seven of them in breach of the pact Joshua had made with them. (I discussed the Gibeonites and the revenge episode in detail in my July 12 column.)

learning in Babylonia.

Noticing that Rabbi Yitzhak, Rabbi Yehuda's son, was still single though well into adulthood, he asked Rabbi Yehuda about that. Rabbi Yehuda said: "Do I know where I can find him a wife fit for

where we stem from?"

kasher?

taught in Rav's name: If you see

quarreling families."

ALL THAT being so, where shall we class all the varieties of hunters of the genealogically disadvan-

ple, those who, with obviously malicious intent, decided that the world had to know that Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein's father, Gheorghiu Edelstein, is a Russian

Yuli, 37, was an aliya activist in the former Soviet Union from 1978 and a refusenik from 1979. In 1984 he was sentenced to three years in a labor camp on a trumped-up narcotics charge. He was finally permitted to "ascend" to Israel in 1987.

Trade Minister Natan Sharansky and others he founded the Soviet Jewry Zionist Forum and the

descendants be handed to them for execution, in revenge for Saul's

IN CONNECTION with pedigree and marriageability, the Talmud tells us the story of the visit the talmudic Sage Ulla, who had "ascended" from Babylonia to Eretz Yisrael, paid to Rabbi Yehuda, his former teacher in Pumbedita, the great center of

him [in terms of pedigree]?"
Ulla retorted: "Do we know

Rabbi Yehuda: "In that case, how can we tell which family is

Ulla: "Apply the Eretz Yisrael criterion of silence: When you see two families quarreling, see which

is the first not to answer back." Rabbi Yehuda subsequently two people quarreling, know that [at least] one of them is tainted." Rabbi Yehoshua ben Levi applies the same principle to two

Where shall we class, for exam-Orthodox priest?

Edelstein senior is the son of a Jewish father and non-Jewish mother. His wife, Yuli's mother, is

Together with Industry and Yisrael B'aliya party, which has seven members in the present Knesset and two cabinet minis-

T CAME TO PASS THAT

DAVID SAT IN HIS HOUSE



Serve God, not yourself

"For these nations, which you shall dispossess, listen to astrologers and diviners. But as for you, the Lord your God has not permitted

(Deul 18:14)

The Jerusalem Post is one of the few Israeli papers which hasn't succumbed to publishing a horoscope page. The future is a major enterprise, and all kinds of ways are employed to penetrate the unknown - coffee grounds, tea leaves, tarot cards.

This week's portion of Shoftim, with no less than six different commandments covering a broad range of idolatrous and magical practices, does not look upon such practices as amusing; on the contrary, attempting to "divine" the future is a clear violation of the

One thing should be understood, however: our Torah portion is not necessarily claiming leading or deceptive. For our present intent and purpose, the veracity of the prediction is irrelevant. Even if we were to believe that there is some accuracy in astrological predictions, the Torah strictly forbids us from utilizing that form of "futurology."

The basic reason for the prohibition, and even a positive commandment in its own right, is the verse: "You shall be wholehearted [tamim] with the Lord your God." (Deut. 18:14) This verse follows the negative commandments prohibiting stick divination, omens, witchcraft and incantations.

Why does the concept of wholeheartedness appear after a long list of forbidden divina-

Nahmanides lists "wholeheartedness" as the eighth positive commandment. This he defines as "placing into our hearts only the truth, that we should not believe in heavenly signs at all, SHABBAT SHALOM SHLOMO RISKIN

such as astrology."

The implication is not necessarily that astrology is false, but that God is above science and nature - and our faith must only reside in Him.

The Talmud accords a dialogue between Abraham and the Almighty in which the first Jew complains that he has gazed into the stars and learned that he is not destined to have a son. God answers that Abraham must remove himself from the domain of astrology; the nation of Israel is not ruled by the stars, but only by God.

Here the subtlety involved in Nahmanides' wholeheartedness is illuminated. Even though there may be a genuine value to astrological calculations, a Jew must realize that his relationship toward his future is to be found only through God and His Torah. All other systems that aspire to define a person's destiny must be shunned by a Jew who walks "wholeheartedly" with God.

Human events are always open to development depending upon the actions of the indi-vidual and the will of the Almighty. Every other discipline which purports to determine or foretell is a distraction at best and a prohibition

Maimonides takes this idea of wholehearted-

ness one step further. It is forbidden to foretell the future (lenahesh), Maimonides begins, insisting that soothsaying and astrology and the like are all illusions devoid of the truth. He proscribes the individual from allowing a happenstance event, such as a black cat crossing his path, to determine whether he will or will not sign a contract or embark on a journey. And then, in a startling statement, Maimonides concludes his list of prohibitions in this context

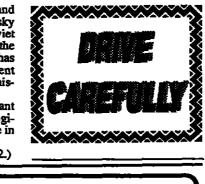
with the following: "[A person may not say] if such and such will happen, I will do this, and if not, I won't, like Eliezer, the servant of Abraham." Abraham's servant, Eliezer, had been sent by his master to find a wife for Isaac. Eliezer stands at the crossroads near a well and prays: "Lord God of my master Abraham, cause please an important occurrence to befall me today. The young woman... who will say. drink and also give water to your camels.... You shall have proven her [worthy] of your servant Isaac [Gen. 24: 12-14]."

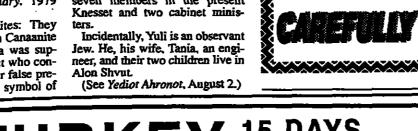
The commentators find Maimonides' exception to Eliezer difficult to understand, since Eliezer's action was not only not forbidden, but was admirable. I believe that Maimonides is communicating a most profound, albeit difficult, axiom of Judaism in his condemnation of Eliezer, and is at the same time extending the concept of what it means to be wholehearted with God.

ourselves and the vision of our future to any system other than God and Torah; it is equally important that we not subject God to our individual needs and to the determination of our future desires.

To be wholehearted with God means to serve Him wholly and completely. We must engage ourselves in His service; we dare not engage Him on our service. The difficulty with Eliezer was not in the criterion he established for a suitable wife for Isaac; it was rather in that he was utilizing God for his ends, he wanted God to act in accordance with his plan.

The highest prayer is gratitude for whatever we have received at the hand of the Almighty, unconditional acceptance of the will of the Almighty, and the request for the strength and ability to further the plan of the Almighty.







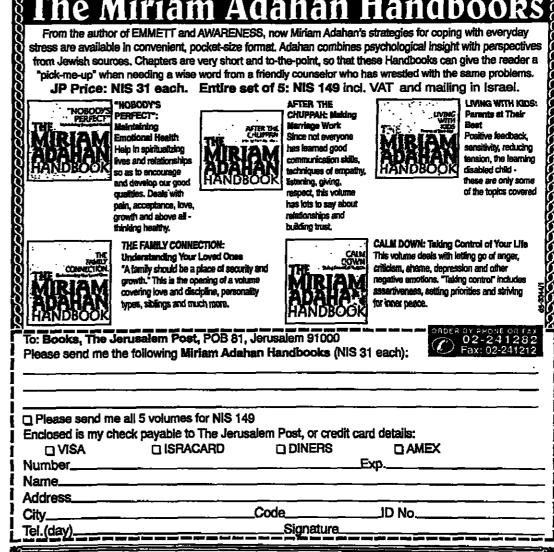
This English-speaking tour of Turkey has been organized by the experts

Geographical Tours and Neot Hakikar - especially for Jerusalem Post readers. The 15-day, in-depth tour will explore some of the most wondrous sites of this fascinating country. Our flight will take us to Antalya, where we'll begin our tour at the "eagle's nest" of Termessos. We'll sail to Kekova, only approachable by sea, and that evening we'll visit picturesque Kas, then continue along the Lycian coast to Marmaris, Didyma, and Kusadasi, where

The next day we'll travel to Ephesos, Pamukkale, a natural area of great beauty, and Konya, the home of the Whirling Dervishes. We'll spend the next two days exploring unique sites in the magical region of Cappadocia, and then continue to Ankara, Turkey's capital city. After an ascent through the Phontos Mis., we'll reach Istanbul, one of the world's great cities, renowned for both its physical setting and rich culture, and spend three days there (including Shabbat). Our tour of Istanbul will include the Blue Mosque, the Hagia Sophia the Byzantine Masterpiece - the Topkapi Palace, Grand Bazaar, and much, much more. We'll sail the Bosporus and still have time to shop and stare. This is a unique tour which includes many sites not usually visited by tourists. Don't miss it if you really want to see Turkey. The price: \$1,395. Single supplement: \$230.

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Buy Blue & White and keep Israel in the Pink

Organizers search for growth remedies

South dealer North-South vulnerable

North

West (Eisenberg) East (Sundelin) ♠ J73 ♥A97654

South ♠ K954

♦ K 10653

West North East double 5 ♦

Opening lead: *K

T the American Contract Bridge League (ACBL) nationals last week in Miami Beach, Florida, the board of directors announced a new form

of the game: Classic Bridge.

A committee, "The ACBL
Future of Bridge Task Force," recommended this idea as an antidote to the game's unpopularity. They claim that the decline in bridge growth over the last 20 years in the US (from 32 million to 17 million estimated players) stems from the game's complexity: too many conventions, too many alerts and too lit-

Indeed, the average age of the ACBL membership is over 66 and the number of members is declining at the rate of 3% per year despite 12,000 new members each

Classic Bridge, they say, will be a new form of competitive bridge. There will be a smaller convention

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

card, limited options in bidding, leads and carding. There will be no "alerts" and no announcements during the game.

BRIDGE has many assets. It's fun to play. It's a great competitive

Everyone has a chance to play against the top players and some-times defeat them. The mental exercise is good for your health. It's a game of skill, but the element of luck means everyone can win occasionally.

The computer revolution provides a new and exciting platform for new forms of play. And, per-haps most important, the game of bridge brings people together - it's highly social.

Why then isn't it a growing sport? The Task Force claims that the game's major liabilities are the complexity of the game and the poor public perception of the

bridge players. Some would disagree. Indeed, a successful promoter of women's tennis once claimed that bridge has a far higher potential for growth than tennis. "Women's tennis is nothing to write home about, but it was smartly promoted with commercial sponsorship and prize

told the public that women's tennis was exciting and they bought it. The same can be done for bridge.

This is correct. The complexities of bridge do not have to be learned overnight. You do not have to be an expert in squeeze play to enjoy

The rules are basically simple and if, say, a TV viewer who did not yet understand the game was told that if a finesse won, a player would receive \$100,000 (and if he

lost his opponent would take the money), he would stay tuned to see if the finesse won - and quickly want to learn how he could take

such a finesse! Many of the early lessons learned at the bridge table are later broken when a player becomes more knowledgeable. This was demonstrated on today's deal from last week's Spingold Knock-Out Teams in Miami.

The opening bid of two diamonds by South was a distorted form of the weak two-bid, showing at least five diamonds and 4points. North's two-notrump response was forcing, asking for clarification, and South's threespade bid showed a feature in spades and a maximum strength for the weak two.

The East-West players were two former world champions; West was Billy Eisenberg, of Boca Raton, Florida, and East was P.O. Sundelin, of Sweden. Eisenberg doubled three spades but then found himself on lead against five diamonds. He led the king of

The maxim, "aces were meant to take kings," means that your ace should take the opponent's king. This case was different. To defeat the contract, Sundelin made the spectacular-looking play of the ace of hearts on his partner's king.

He then returned a heart for West to ruff, and the ace of spades was the setting trick. Sundelin's play was well-reasoned: If the heart king was a doubleton, the contract could not be defeated, because declarer would hold only

The only hope for the defense was if South held a doubleton heart and West the singleton. If Sundelin had not overtaken with the ace, declarer would have discarded a heart on one of dummy's

Give your garden a fighting chance in the summer heat

INEZ KLIMIST

THAT a hot summer! The life of summer blooming annuals and perennials has certainly been shortened by the fierce sun, leaving empty

spaces in our gardens.

Keep watering deeply. Keep deadheading all your flowers, and keep tilling the topsoil lightly with a hand hoe to keep weeds from taking hold. A spray of water on the leaves to get some of the dust off is a good idea, since we never have a refreshing rain. Wet the leaves only in the early morning hours. In the evening, wet leaves encourage growth of fungus, and in the heat of the day the sun may burn wet leaves. Keep your garden clean and healthy looking. Pick up dead leaves and debris. Keep a sharp lookout for aphids and other pests. Get rid of them right away, don't let

When you cut roses for the house, or deadhead, be sure to make a sharp cut a centimeter above a spray of five leaves. This is the joint which will produce new growth and new flowers. If your cut is above a three leaf spray, it will take much longer to et more roses.

them take over and do a lot of

Both your roses and your other ants will appreciate a dose of liquid fertilizer about now. It will give them a bit of extra strength like a few extra vitamins for someone who has been stressed by an infection.

By the way, I heard a new sug-gestion while I was in England (land of the expert amateur gardener). Cut up all your banana peels into half centimeter bits, and instead of putting them into the



It's best to do summer planting in the evening to give the plants a few hours of cooler tempera-

tures to recover. compost, put them directly around the base of your roses. They turn black right away so they are not unsightly. They do not attract flies, or smell bad. They decompose very quickly and completely, so they deliver nutrients and minerals directly to your flowers. I have been trying it since early spring, and I seem to have more roses this year in spite of the heat. My friends who have tried it are also very pleased with the results. It certainly is worth a try, and the

annuals to fill out empty spots. If you do decide to plant now you will need to take a few extra precautions. Do your planting in the evening to give the plants few hours of cooler temperatures to recover. Wet the soil thoroughly before you begin. Dig the hole before you remove the plant from its pot. Plant quickly. Do not leave the roots exposed to the heat any longer than it takes to transfer the plant from the pot to the ground. Give

Nurseries are full of bright a feeding of liquid fertilizer to minimize transplant shock. Water thoroughly, and be sure to water every day at least until the plant begins to grow in its new home.

If you have planted in a sunny spot, protect your new plant from the sun with an inverted empty pot or a newspaper tent for at least two or three days. To prevent fungus, remove the covering in the evening or early morning for an hour or two so fresh air can circu-

The bes

FLOW HOLF

Broom plants sweep the desert

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

F the many plants mentioned in the Bible and discussed widely by the Sages in sacred literature is the White Broom, Raetama raetam in Latin, rotem in Hebrew. Indeed the Latin name is derived from the Hebrew and is also preserved in Arabic as ratham.

According to the Scriptures when Hagar and her son Ishmael were sent out to wander in the desert Hagar laid her son under a bush. The Sages tell us that it was a White Broom bush since it is one of the very few bushes that grow in that area and are large enough to provide shade. They say that it was in memory of this, that Ishmael later called the place where he resided

Ritama. The rotem, or broom plant, is not a very remarkable plant. In fact, most of the time it is totally inconspicuous.

But once a year when it blooms it bursts into strands of silvery blossoms and beauty is remarkably found in such a barren place.

But there is more than annual beauty to recommend the White

Broom bush. It is one of the desert's most effective ways of anchoring sand and preventing erosion. It also provides shade, thus creating a micro-climate that allows other plants and lichens that would die under the blazing sun to survive. It even harbors snails that chew and gnaw at the lichens on the rocks and also swallow some minute particles of rock, later excreting this material, mixed with their own metabolic wastes as new, fertile

soil to replace what is blown.

The thing for which the broom bush is most famous is the fact that it produces a clean, almost smokeless cooking fire with embers that remain hot for hours and even days and can rekindled to start a new fire. For centuries it was a fuel of

choice for the nomads and a favorite for the charcoal-sellers who made charcoal from its roots, while those who wanted to keep food hot on the Sabbath found it invaluable. It was only three decades ago that the production of charcoal from the rotem was halted by law since the plant was getting scarce.

In ancient times people were limited by distance and by the hard work of digging out the roots and they did not over crop. Now, with modern transport and tools the balance was overturned and it was necessary to halt the depredation.

The neatest trick I know using this amazing plant was taught to me by the late archeologist Pesach Bar Adon who had spent much of his life, in fact all of his youth, wandering in the desert with a tribe of Bedouins. To enjoy a toasty warm bed on a very cold desert night just gather a pile of dry twigs of white broom and pile them about 20 centimeters deep in the form of a mattress. Set the twigs alight and when they are reduced to embers pile another 15 or so centimeters of sand on them. Spread your sleeping bag or blankets and enjoy a warm comfortable sleep, even if the temperature drops below freezing.

Hungry for gold

NICK KOPALOFF

THERE was no red carpet laid out to greet Alexander Rabinowitz upon his arrival back to Netanya after he sensationally took the bronze medal at last month's European Championships in Slovakia. But the 18-year-old is quietly confident that when he wins gold the reception will be quite dif-

"I will continue to play and to



train all my life with the determination and hope that I will someday bring back a gold medal home to

Upon his aliya from Moldovia six years ago, Rabinowitz's potential was immediately realized when at the tender age of 12 1/2 he took third place in the national under 16 championships. He went on to represent the country in both the European and World under 16s in Hungary.

Notwithstanding his tremendous ability, representing Israel in these events was no foregone conclusion. He had to overcome some very stiff competition from the likes of Daniel Rotman, Igor Sorkin and Yaron Hadas, each superb players in their own right. A graduate now turned trainer of

the Netanya Chess School. Rabinowitz is personally coached by Leonid Shmuter. For the past six years he has played for the Elitzur Netanya club in both the National and Artzit Leagues, notching up some enviable wins against players of Grandmaster level.

Unlike some other young chess giants, such as Gata Kanisky, of whom it is said he has no friends and no interests other than chess, Rabinowitz has struck a healthy balance between his chess and other activities. "I love soccer, basketball and discoteques, but most of all my girlfriend Anna," he admits bashfully.

VLADIMIR Liberzon, Israel's first player to hold the coveted title of Grandmaster, died suddenly early last week. He was 59.

Liberzon immigrated to Israel from the former Soviet Union in 1973, and won the national championships within a year of his arrival. He went on to represent Israel in four Olympiads between 1974 and 1980.

A revered theoretician and strategist Liberzon also wrote a number of chess books, including The Delights of Chess, which is considered a classic.

Over the last couple of years he played tor the Givatayim club in the iviational League. He leaves behind him a wife and two chil-

If you play 1.e4 against Alexander Rabinowitz he will most probably respond with the French Defence 1 ... e6. His deep theoretical understanding of this opening is awesome, as the Estonian representative at the European Championships was to find out.

Vergun, Dmitri (Estonia) Rabinowitz, Alexander (Israel) Slovakia 1996 French Defence

1.e4 e6 2.d4 d5 3.Nd2 Nf6 4.e5 📟 Nfd7 5.f4 c5 6.c3 Nc6 7.Ndf3 cxd4 8.cxd4 Ob6 9.Ne2, the postmortem analysis showed that White would have faired better with either 9.h4 or 9.g3

9...f6 10.Nc3 fxe5 11.fxe5 Be7 12.a3 0-0 13.Na4 Qc7 14.Bd3? the more natural 14.Be2 would still give Black better chances after 14...a6 and 15...b5

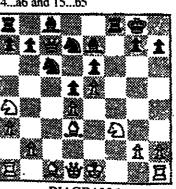


DIAGRAM 1 14...Rxf3!! 15.gxf3, If 15.Qxf3 Nxd4 16.Bxh7 Kxh7 17.Qh5+ Kg8 18.0-0 Nf5!15...Nxd4 16.f4 Nxe5!!, a second sacrifice!

17.0-0, the capture of the Knight taboo since after 17.fxe5 Rabinowitz secures a winning advantage with Oxe5+ 18.Kfl Bd7

19.Nc3 Rf8+ 20.Kg2 Nf3! 17...Nxd3 18.Qxd3 Bf6 19.Bd2 Bd7 20.Nc3 Be8 21.f5 Nxf5 22.Nxd5 Qc5+ 23.Be3 Nxe3 24.Nxe3 Bb5 25.Qe4 Bxf1 26.Qxe6+ Kf8 27.Rf1 Re8 0-1 There may be a number of winning lines in the following position taken from last year's league game between Ran Shabtai and Alexander Rabinowitz But Alexander Rabinowitz. Rabinowitz probably found the prettiest. Black to play and win.

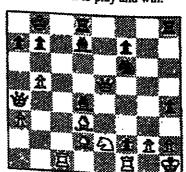
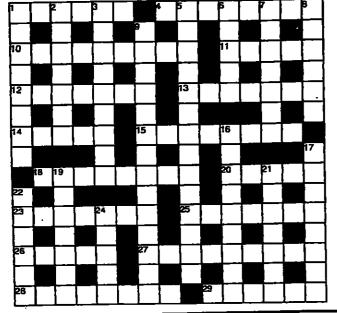


DIAGRAM 2 Solution: 1...Nh5!!, threatening 2...Ng3+ 3.Nxg3 hxg3 forcing

2.h3 Ng3+ 3.Nxg3 hxg3 4.Qb3 Be6, preparing Be5 5.Qc2 Rxh3+

Correction: Last week's second diagram should have shown a White rook on n2 instead of a black pawn. Apologies for the confusion.



CRYPTIC CROSSWORD 6 A good primate exhibits 25 Ask for more money to

improve the print (7)

German contract (5)

nnnatural (9)

ACROSS

1 A party in defeat! (6) 4 Dismayed when a quiet

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DEAL

Jerus before 6 p.m Tel #

noon, and S and 1

FOR

friend took charge (8) 10 Hairstyle for Anglo-Aussie with a proud disposition (9) 11 Some wish to hear guest

speakers debate (5) 12 See a dew form on the shore, maybe (7) 13 Hardly the hotel for a top

performer (3-4) 14 Discharge a man in weird clothing (5) 15 Waited to be given an

escort (8) 18 Appeared to have increased the volume (6,2)

20 Number one motor for a minister (5) 23 Bishop ordered attire for a

and a bird (8) 29 Listed by spare journalist

28 We left Titus with a rodent

member in fury (7) 3 American diplomat (9)

DOWN ~ 1 Ribbons go under a piece of -2 Storm created by a

5 Such a call produces

response pronto (6-2-6)

astonishment (5) 7 Envoy takes note that he's 26 Impatient to win each the beneficiary (7) 27 Solitude to a lion is 8 Cheerless auditor in sober

surroundings (6) 9 Plant found in the Upper House (5,3,6)

16 On All Saints' Day I entered art gallery for training (9)

17 Otherwise Daphne could be left parentless (8) 19 Just the slogan for the

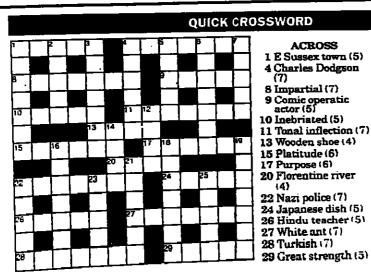
Redwood camp? (7) 21 Prudence gets a formal

reprimand (7) 22 Aim the thing! (6) 24 Trunk taken from actors on

location (5)

SOLUTIONS SICEPEU I I ASKING NUMBRIESS TVE I A D C TILED INITIATION E E U T

CROSS: 1 Thorough, 7 Fairs, Lowlander, 9 Ale, 10 Norm, 11 Fennel, 13 Absurd, 14 Dieted, 17 Avenge. 18 (nns. 20 Add. 22 Eliminate. 23 Eager. 24 Attender. DOWN: 1 Talog. 2 Onwards, 3 Oral, 4 Gadget, 5 Rival, 6 Ushered, 7 Frantic, 12 Creeper, 13 Ashamed, 15 Tankard, 16 Egoist, 17 Adage, 19



ACROSS 1 E Sussex town (5) 4 Charles Dodgson

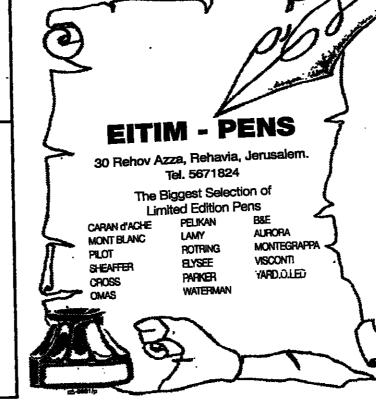
8 Impartial (7) 9 Comic operatic actor (5) 10 Inebriated (5) 11 Tonal inflection (7) 13 Wooden shoe (4) 15 Platitude (6)

17 Purpose (6) 20 Florentine river 22 Nazi police (7) 24 Japanese dish (5) 26 Hindu teacher (5) 27 White ant (7) 28 Turkish (7)

DOWN 1 Madman (7) 2 Squeezed tightly 3 Make taut (7) 4 Unbleached cotton (6)

5 Fanaticai (5) 6 Misdemeanour (7) 7 Unfasten (5) 12 Opposed to (si.) (4) 14 Spring (4) 16 Immediate (7) 18 Quack remedy (7)

19 Neptune's spear 21 Putrid (6) 22 Plaster of Paris (5) 23 Maxim (5) 25 Move to and fro (5)



لكذا من ألاصل

The Venice of the West Coast is pretty hip

GLORIA DEUTSCH

EATTLE - the city of great coffee and over-friendly natives who will tell you their life story as they wrap up your purchase - sits on a narrow strip of land with Puget Sound on its left flank and Lake Union cutting across its

There's water, water everywhere and the city has devised a complex system of locks, bridges, canals and ferries to connect its various parts. No wonder it's sometimes called the Venice of the West Coast. It's also known as the Misty City, thanks to its frequent rain, which is said to come pouring down about 300 days of each year.

Seattleites are easy-going people who enjoy a relaxed lifestyle and it's no surprise to discover that the happy-face logo was born here.

Not too much happened in Seattle until 1962, when it hosted the Century 21 Exposition, the last US World's Fair to the control of the control World's Fair to turn a profit. The main inheritance of that event is Seattle Center - 74 acres of shops, theaters and sports arenas - and the most familiar landmark, the Space Needle, which towers 200 meters over the city.

A monorail from the downtown terminal whisks visitors up to the center in 95 seconds. Getting on and off at the leisurely unhurried Seattle pace adds another five minutes at either end of the journey.

Seattle's pre-1962 history is comic and its fathers produced some wayout present-day attractions.

The first pioneer families made it to Seattle only in the mid-19th century. They settled at Alki Point, got blown away a few times and moved round the point to the protected waters of Elliott Bay. The name Seattle was purchased from a friendly Indian chieftain, for \$16,000.

With a natural harbor to the west and miles of virgin woodland to the east, the area was ideal for its first industry, the sawmill. Logs for export were rolled down Skid Road, giving Seattle the distinction of having the first "skid row" in the US.

Today Pioneer Square (which is really a triangle) is the starting point for the Underground Tour, a hilarious journey around the remains of the city's oldest neighborhood, which was destroyed by a fire in 1889 supposedly when someone left a glue-pot in a paint shop on the fire and it boiled over.

Below the chic boutiques, galleries, antique shops and cafes of Seanle's picturesque square lies old Seanle, a frontier town with fascinating vestiges of the early shops and homes. After the fire leveled the city, business carried on as usual in the remains, while the city was being rebuilt.

The only way to cross the street was by using a ladder to climb over the wall. This went on for 15 years, until the new city was built and shopkeepers closed their doors down below for the last time.

Today visitors climb over piles of rubble and dodge rats to view Seattle's foundations.

The garment shop of one merchant, Moses Korn, is quite well-preserved with a lovely flowery wall frieze still visible. Kom also had his own personal toilet, which was mounted on a small staircase so that the newly invented flushing toilet would flush down and not up, which it did when on the ground.

On Pioneer Square itself one can sit and drink Starbucks coffee, enjoy the totem pole carved by Tlingit Indians and see the distinctive Smith Tower which, when it was built in 1914, was the fourth highest building in the US. The area's beauty is diminished by a hideous multistory parking lot known as the "sinking ship" because of its shape.

As one of the most important seaports in the US - and the one closest



The city's most familiar landmark, the Space Needle, towers 200 meters over Seattle's skyline with Mt. Rainier in the background.

with every conceivable aquatic activity. Seattle is famous for its fish and at Pike Place Market the gargantuan salmon are a tourist attraction in their own right. Salesmen there double as comedians, sending fish flying through the air to be weighed and packed, and cries of "smoked salmon" rend the air in much the same way as "timber!" in

The piles of fresh fruit and vegetables at Pike Place, which claims to be America's oldest functioning There are also craft shops, ethnic food outlets and "antique" stands, though the Seattle translation of antique is anything second-hand.

A steep climb down the terraced walkway is Pier 59, the highlight of Seattle's water development. An aquarium with more than 360 species of birds, fish and marine animals is situated here. The aquarium boasts an underwater dome, a salmon ladder, fish hatchery and the Omnidome, which shows nature films on a huge 180° screen. The Seattle Art Museum - famous

art and modern art of the Pacific Northwest - is worth a visit. So is the Museum of Flight, which traces the history of aviation with 20 fullsized airplanes hanging from the ceiling of an impressive glass-andsteel gallery. It's situated in Boeing Field, south of the city.

Seattle is surrounded by lush greenery and gorgeous scenery, from the Olympic Mountains in the west to Mount Rainier in the east. On clear days the lovely snow-capped peak of Rainier is visible.

for its exhibits of Asian and African

The hour-long drive to the Olympic Mountains takes you through spectacular scenery, but if you don't have the time, you can view the mountains through giant periscopes at the waterfront.

The Spirit of Puget Sound from

Pier 70 is one of many cruise ships which cross over to the surrounding countryside. There are also frequent car ferries to the various exotic islands around. The Victoria Clipper offers luxury cruises to the famed Canadian island, which can be reached and visited in a day.

Jewish life in the city of great coffee

لكذا من ألاصل

OSHER diners can do quite well in Seattle. Habad runs a small restaurant - Kosher Delight - just around the corner from Pike Place Market at 1509 First Avenue, where Michel Shriki dispenses schnitzel and falafel.

Five blocks away at Blanchard and Third, his wife presides over Betay Avone, an upscale restaurant whose name belies its superb French cuisine.

For variety, there's Lotus Garden, a Chinese vegetarian place under the shadow of the Space Needle. The restaurant has a kashrut certificate from the local Jewish community but is open on

The nearest synagogue to the downtown area isn't that near, being at an old-age home about 30 blocks north at 1500 East Pike

However, it's worth the long uphill walk for the warm welcome its chairman Barry Aaronson gives from the pulpit to out-of-town

There are many other synagogues in Seattle, ranging from Lubavitch to Reform.

There is even a gay and lesbian congregation at the Southland Jewish Center which lists itself as Orthodox in the Jewish Travel

The best-kept secret underground

HAIM SHAPIRO

or gol

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AST year, there were about 800,000 visitors to Masada ■and 54,102 to Beit She'arim. If people acted rationally, it would be the other way around.

Masada is hard to get to and involves a long drive. Even if you use the cable car, a tour of the site is hot and tiring. Beit She'arim is just outside Haifa and a short drive from Tel Aviv. The site is shaded and the caves have natural air-conditioning.

Herod - by all accounts not a very pleasant person - and with a group of Jewish extremists who chose isolation and suicide, rather than Jewish continuity. Beit She'arim was the seat of the Sanhedrin and is associated with Rabbi Yehuda Hanassi, the redactor of the Mishna and one of the great figures in Jewish history.

It is true that the finds at Masada are impressive, but to my mind no more fascinating than the vast necropolis of Beit She'arim, with its complex of burial caves and massive stone sarcophagi, many of them decorated. This was the burial area that served not only the aristocracy of the Jews of Israel, but also of the Diaspora, after Jerusalem was closed to them in the third and fourth cen-

turies CE. The burial caves are not a new discovery. Most have been uncovered since the 1930s, when they were excavated by Binyamin Mazar, while the others were brought to light by Nachman Avigad in the 1950s. What is new is that more of the caves are open to the public. They have become more visitor-friendly, with lighting to highlight many of the details on the sarcophagi and on the walls of the limestone chambers. Even the great stone doors, carved out of the rock to resemble wood and iron doors with massive "nailheads" and "knockers," have been cleaned and are more clearly visible. Some of the sarcophagi are sim-

Reit She'arim, with its complex of burial caves and massive stone sarcophagi, was the burial area that served not only the aristocracy of the Jews of Israel, but also of the Diaspora.

ple and unadomed, but others have a wealth of detail, with wreaths and knobs. Some have a bull's head, a clearly Roman symbol, and one even has a well-fashioned Roman eagle. In one area, a large menora has been incised in

the stone wall of the cave. There are inscriptions - some scratched into the stone and some in deep red letters that look as if they might have been written the other day with a felt-tip pen. However, they refer to those buried centuries ago. According to the inscriptions, many of the bodies were brought long distances, from Jewish communities throughout the ancient world.

One cave is known as the cave of the curses, because of the imprecations against the grave robbers, who are promised a tortured death. The curses did not protect these remains or those in the other tombs, all of which were emptied by grave robbers cen-turies ago. We can be fairly sure that the grave robbers died, but there is no way of knowing if they suffered a bad end.

Among the more impressive caves is that said to have held the remains of Rabbi Yehuda Hanassi. There is no inscription to assure us that this is indeed his grave, but inscriptions inside the cave do refer to burial sites of Gamliel and Simon, his sons. This is also the only burial cave with a large, spacious entry chamber, appropriate for a very important figure. This is in contrast to the other caves where as many sarcophagi as possible seem to have

been shoved in. We also know that Yehuda Hanassi wished to be buried with his wife and in the earth, not in a stone sarcophagus. At the end of the cave, there is indeed a large, well-formed double grave in the

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earth. The sage wrote that he wished his followers to pray above his grave, and there are a series of stone benches cut out of the rock on the hillside above this tomb.

The necropolis of Beit She'arim is open daily and Shabbat from 8 to 5 and on Friday from 8 to an hour before Shabbat begins. Because of the special nature of Yehuda Hanassi's presumed burial site, those wishing to visit this cave should coordinate their visits in advance.

Tel. (04) 983-1643. The entry fee is NIS 10 per adult, NIS 5 per

Succot travel packages – with or without a Succa

OING abroad during Succot doesn't mean that you can't observe the holiday. Ofakim Tours says it is ready to send a portable Succa and a set of the four species with any of the groups going abroad during the holiday period. The company deals primarily in package tours to Western Europe, New York and

A 15-DAY Succot tour of FOR A post-holiday tour of Morocco, including a four-day Saviv Haolam. The price of \$1,700 includes flights, hotels with half-board, and a day's tour

A SUCCOT week in Crete, with flights and accommodation with breakfast is available from Flying Carpet from \$509.

AN 11-DAY Succot tour of Thailand is being offered by Nofesh Plus for \$1,197, including air fare.

AMIEL TOURS, which represents Robinson Club in Israel, is offering a variety of Succot packages at the chain's Turkish locations. Prices for the week range from \$815 to \$1,100.

A SUCCOT package including El Al's special direct flight to Orlando is offered by Baron Tours, with five nights in an Orlando hotel, a week's car rental in Florida, a return flight from Miami to New York and four nights in New York. The price is \$1,299 for adults, \$899 for children, based on a group of two adults and two children.

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LUFTHANSA IS offering flights to 20 destinations in Europe via Munich for \$599 during the entire holiday period, from September 1 to October 4. Among the destinations are London, Amsterdam. Oslo, and

HAIM SHAPIRO

Turkey which includes many tourists, The Jerusalem Post Travel Club and Geographical Tours-Neot Hakikar is offering a 15-day trip with an Englishspeaking guide. The price of \$1,395 includes all travel and accommodation, usually with half-board.

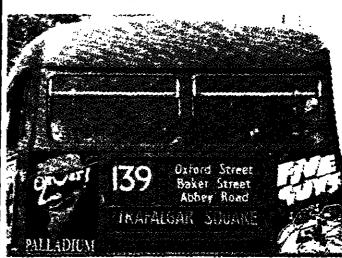
ANOTHER JERUSALEM Post Travel Club excursion is its 10-

day London Theatre Tour. The \$1,685 price includes tickets to four top shows, as well as sightseeing excursions and a two-day visit to Bath.

A TOUR to what is described as the last undiscovered land in the world, Papua-New Guinea, is being offered by Geographical Tours-Neot Hakikar, timed to coincide with a local biennial song and dance festival with the folklore of all the country's tribes. The price of the 15-day tour is \$6,990.

ARKIA is offering reduced prices to destinations in the Mediterranean for certain dates in late August and early September. Deals include a week in Crete for \$499, or in Santorini for \$399, and two-forthe-price-of-one flight tickets to Sicily for \$475 or Malaga for

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Political UFOs and other aliens in the summer haze

HE week after NASA reported evidence of life on Mars, the political domestic scene seemed to be moving into the realm of a science fiction movie. It may of course be just the August heat casting a sluggish haze over all.

haze over all.

The theme was set by Labor chairman MK Shimon Peres, who reminded the Knesset that the prime minister had promised to "surprise the world." It wasn't altogether clear, said Peres, whether he had sprung the surprise already. "But," he said, "many in the world are rubbing their eyes, wondering what political UFO is spinning through the

Apparently oblivious that it should be the summer silly season, the government continued reeling from one crisis to another like a group of vacationing aliens trying to adjust their feet to terra firma.

Foreign Minister David Levy continued to find evidence that he was being excluded from foreign affairs and threatened to resign. Justice Minister Ya'acov Ne'eman found himself under police investigation and did resign.

Tsomet leader and Agriculture Minister Rafael Eitan realized he had no role in plans to redeploy the army from Hebron and also threatened to quit. Absorption Minister Yuli Edelstein of Yisrael Ba'aliya threatened to go when he heard Housing Minister Meir Porush (Aguda) had changed the criteria for housing mortgages, to the detriment of new immigrants.

A couple of weeks ago the government quilted a patchwork ministry no one had thought the country needed for the sole purpose of getting Ariel Sharon aboard Spaceship Bestiagain because

Levy had threatened to resign.

This week, the one ministry most people agree is redundant and should be abolished (even its own ministers!) got not one, but two rotating ministers, two rotating directors-general and two vice-ministers. Peres called it the "revolving door system."

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Hebrew...Helps in School Work.

THE WEEK THAT WAS

It was little wonder politicians showed little interest in life on Mars, sniggered some MKs, when some ministers appeared cut off from life on Earth or at least in the Promised Land.

The Treasury and central bank seemed blissfully unaware of the crashing sounds coming from the Tel Aviv Stock Exchange. The prime minister and finance minister niftily reversed almost every economic plan and cutback they had announced so proudly and so firmly only a few weeks

Cutbacks? Belt tightening? Forget it. The state budget must be in good shape judging by the decision to appoint 24 political vice-directors-general, two for each ministry. "They will be in charge of vice in their departments," commented Knesset wits.

Education Minister Zevulun Hammer and Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert maintained the silence of innocent lambs as haredi bullies continued to attack women employees of the education ministry in Jerusalem in broad daylight.

Still, they have their reasons. Hammer was convalescing in a Swiss sanatorium from the National Religious Party's elections victory. Olmert was busy drawing futuristic tunnels under maps of Bar-flan Street so secular drivers could scurry underneath like moles without disturbing Shabbat silence in the world

For some reason, this put some older MKs in mind of the time rape first became a public concern. Lateral thinking police suggested a brilliant solution women should not be allowed out after a certain hour, say nine o'clock at night.

Prime Minister Golda Meir reportedly countered: "Why not forbid men to leave home after dark? After all, it's they who commit the rapes, not the women."

but it has been having a powerful impact on the life of Anne, the first Mrs. Pollard:
"The last two weeks have been

"The last two weeks have been the most intolerable of my life," Anne Pollard told The Jerusalem Post. She paused. "Except for the Ronald Reagan," gushed new "The last two weeks have been the most intolerable of my life," Anne Pollard told The Jerusalem Post. She paused. "Except for the time I spent in jail, of course."

Ronald Reagan," gushed new Republican vice-presidential candidate Jack Kemp at his first dinner date with US Jewish organizations on the eve of the party contion this week.

Oh, yes, smirked some Israeli time I spent in jail, of course."

Anne was unable to enter a cafe or restaurant without being accosted by people indignantly upbraiding her: "What are you doing? How come you're eating? You're supposed to be on hunger strike."

politicians as they wondered how Netanyahu would receive the

somewhat dubious "compliment,"

B-movie actor who rose to power because Americans couldn't tell

the difference between acting a

president and being one, and who

was heavily advised by his wife,

but only after she consulted her

being able to answer reporters'

questions without reading pre-prepared replies from little briefing

cards which were always getting

One memorable from the Israeli

television program Fisfusim (slipups) showed Reagan looking

blank as a journalist repeated his

question three times. Each time

his wife Nancy whispered the cor-

rect answer in his ear, but he did-

Finally, she mouthed it so loud-

ly all the world could hear: "We're

doing the best that we can," and

Ronnie obediently repeated the

words to the press and the rest of

the world, in case they hadn't got

it first time. Prizes offered for first

sightings of Sarah Netanyahu buy-

WRONG POLLARD

husband's release through innov-

ative, creative ideas," Netanyahu

told Esther Pollard this week as

she continued her hunger strike

outside the Mashbir in

It is not yet clear whether Mrs.

Pollard's hunger strike will do

anything for Jonathan's release,

"I hope to bring about your

ing a card index.

Jerusalem.

Reagan became famous for not

astrologer?

mixed up.

Was that Reagan the second rate

supposed to be on hunger strike."

She was hassled similarly on the street, at the beach, even on going into a store for her groceries. "What's the matter with you," hissed the busybodies, while others pointed, whispered and muttered darkly.

It appears the Israeli public still identifies Anne, who has been living in Tel Aviv for five years, as Mrs. Jonathan Pollard despite the fact that the petite, vivacious blonde looks nothing like the second Mrs. P.

People who heard Esther Pollard's radio interview berated Anne for being "so vulgar." "I can't even drive in a car without being confronted by other dri-

vers," she complained.

Even Anne's brother, who lives north of Pittsburgh, called to say he was confused after being flooded by telephone calls from people demanding "why is she doing it, why is she protesting and hunger

Anne stresses that she does not want in any way to criticize Esther. "Perhaps what she's doing is right."

But she admits she would go about campaigning differently. "Instead of sitting outside the Mashbir, which isn't doing any good, I'd be campaigning for him in Washington.

"This is a golden opportunity, with both Bill Clinton and Bob Dole running after the Jewish vote for November's elections. Maybe they could be persuaded to promise publicly to release Jonathan publicly.

The key is in Clinton's hand, not Netanyahu's."



Belaynish Zevadia, the first Israeli diplomat of Ethiopian background, receives the Hebrew University symbol from school president Prof. Hanoch Gutfreund.

A truce for the wedding

▼ IVEN their political polar-ization, discord between the Women in Green and Meretz members is virtually inevitable. But there was perfect harmony when representatives of both sides came together this week at the Hebrew University Mount Scopus Campus because no one, including Meretz leader Yossi Sarid, wanted to put a spoke in the wheel of newlyweds Daphna Saperstein and Shai Chazan. The bride's mother, Rachel Saperstein, has frequently been out on the barricades with the Women in Green. and the groom's mother, Naomi Chazan, is a Meretz MK. There's something to be said for the maxim that love conquers all.

ALTHOUGH HIS 74th birthday is actually today, Labor leader and former prime minister Shimon Peres was feted by his party col-leagues last Saturday night at a reception hosted by MK Rafi Ellul. Peres' wife Sonia, who rarely appears with him in public, was at his side. Ellul ostensibly brought the Labor people together for the purpose of clearing some of the tensions which have caused rifts in the ranks. But as the evening wore on, the true guise of the occasion became apparent. The symbolism in the Fiddler on the Roof silver statuette presented to Peres was open to various interpretations, but the esteem in which he is held in many quarters was reflected in the poem composed by Labor whip Ra'anan Cohen. The

poem's refrain is "You were born

A FIDDLER with another string to his bow is violin virtuoso Yitzhak Perlman, who, on September 5, will temporarily trade in his violin for a frying pan as he joins some of America's leading chefs in the preparation of a fundraising banquet to benefit disabled Israelis. Perlman, who is a prime example of an achiever who overcame a disability, is the president of the Friends of The Roof Association of Organizations of Persons with Disabilities. Another Israeli joining the maestro in the New York kitchen will be food maven Israel Aharoni. Whether Aharoni could acquit himself as well on the concert platform as Perlman does in the kitchen is, of course, another

GRAPEVINE GREER FAY CASHMAN

THE IMBROGLIO between Foreign Minister David Levy and Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu can definitely be categorized as tradition. Koor CEO Benny Gaon, appearing on a Radio Network 2 nostalgia program with his brother, entertainer and Jerusalem City Councilman Yehoram Gaon, read a letter which their late father, poet and educator Moshe David Gaon, had sent him over 40 years ago, when Benny was doing his compulsory military service. The senior Gaon had written a detailed account of the disputes between prime minister David Ben-Gurion and foreign minister Moshe Sharett. Israel's relationship with some of her neighbors has changed in the interim, but the conflict between the two most senior government officials (regardless of their identities or political affiliations), remains more or less the same.

NOTWITHSTANDING modern tools of communication such as cellular phones and the Internet, nothing beats face to face confrontation. This would explain why Shas leader Arye Deri, who is acting as an intermediary in the Netanyahu-Levy conflict, found it necessary to go from Jerusalem to Beit She'an twice last Friday to confer with Levy.

He is lucky that it's summer. He would have been hard-pressed on a winter Friday to execute his mission with the same degree of commitment. It's not all that easy to be persuasive when your eye is constantly on your watch.

NO LESS monumental for prominent Tel Aviv lawyer and Lloyd's representative in Israel Baruch Gross than his landmark 75th birthday was the surprise party's venue - a cave in the Bet Guvrin area. Conceived and coordinated by noted environmentalist and painter Dafna Margolin, who is the significant other in Gross' life, the celebration was both intellectually and socially stimulating. Former minister and Knesset speaker Yitzhak Berman, former iustice minister David Liba'i, former Shenkar College president

Lord David Samuel, Eliahu Tal, chairman of the International Forum for Jerusalem, Indian Ambassador Shivshankar Menon and his wife Mohini were among the 120 guests who were privy to a mock trial dealing with a dispute over the Cave of the Machpela between Abraham the Patriarch and Ephron the Hittle. Adjudicator was comedian Allen Kuzinski, who made a breathtaking if undignified entry by rappelling his way down from the roof of the cave.

IRONY OF ironies. When Absorption Minister Yuli 59
Edelstein arrived here as a new immigrant in July, 1987. the Absorption Ministry official who handed him his immigrant card was Ephraim Cohen, who in the interim was promoted to directorgeneral. When Edelstein took over as minister, Cohen, as is the custom amongst directors-general, wrote a letter of resignation – which was accepted.

Wait befo

SUCCESS IS never an orphan. Belaynish Zevadia, the first Israeli diplomat of Ethiopian background, who left for Chicago this week to take up her position as information Officer at the Israeli Consulate, owes part of her success to her alma mater - the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Zevadia, who has been busy these past few ... weeks attending a round of ; farewells in her honor, earned her BA in international relations and African studies from the Hebrew ... University and is currently working on an MA in Israeli-Ethiopian 👸 relations. Just in case her diploma is an insufficient reminder of where she received her higher education. 14 HU President Prof. Hanoch Gutfreund gave her the university's symbol to occasionally jog her memory.

KOREAN AMBASSADOR Deng Soon Park should get a special commendation from Israel or the World Jewish Congress for making Jewish and Israeli literature available to his fellow countryman. The ambassador has translated one of the works of Reb Nachman and the book which Noa Ben Artzi wrote about her grandfather Yitzhak Rabin into Korean. He also may translate Leah Rabin's upcoming book, which is due for release next January.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

Friday, August 16, 1996

Where's the beef?

FACED with war-derived inflation, most Bostonians in 1780 balked at lending money to the state of Massachusetts, until it offered to redeem those loans not according to a fixed interest, but according to the fluctuating values of leather, beef, com and wool.

What then was innovative namely the index-linked, inflationof bond - is now a veteran resident in our long-term savings landscape, but in a nutshell the dilemma faced by those Bostonians and their government is what now is at stake between Tel Aviv's trading floors

terangen samue Lerangen box his shankar Mass and Jerusalem's political corridors. Fortunately, there is no war here now, but a steadily growing sense of economic uncertainty has resulted in accelerated bond sales, through the provident funds which have long been Israel's most popular long-term savings

The origin of this mayhem has nothing to do with the recent elections, since it traces back to January 1995, when provident-fund redemptions exceeded deposits by more than NIS 600 million, after **ee consecutive months of surplus deposits. Indeed, during the previous government's last 17 months in office, fund withdrawals exceeded

deposits by NIS 8.7 billion. That stampede had to do not only with the newly deregulated funds' mismanagement, which resulted in unprecedented negative yields, but also with their role in financing a celebration of private consumption fueled by lavish salary raises across the public sector. Irresponsible, and colossally undelivered peace-inour-time promises also contributed their share to the evolving sense of

uncertainty. Yet, even if the origins of today's market upheaval date back to pre-Netanyahu times, the prime minister must seek an explanation for the sharp acceleration in bond sales since his assumption of office.

Apparently, average depositors can't see the new government unlike those Americans revolutionaries - delivering the equivalents of those beef, leather, corn and wool. To convince the public that it would be wise to lend it money, the

government must do much more than merely utter words, even comforting ones like those said yesterday by Netanyahu.

A leadership which vied for power while lacking a detailed economic contingency plan is worthy of the market's whip. A government which talks pompously about privatization, but says it is afraid to tackle politically powerful unions, is perceived as an economic coward. A prime minister whose foreign minister plays hooky while the house is on fire, deserves a financial vote of no confidence. And a government which takes the liberty to appoint 25 political activists for senior civil-service positions will find it difficult to win an investor's - let alone a taxpayer's - respect.

Fortunately, it is still early enough in the day for these phenomena to be corrected. Unfortunately, chances for such a reversal of attitude are slim,

Wait before taking a mortgage, say bankers

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

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HOME buyers who are not hard pressed to take a mortgage are advised to wait a few months before making a move, mortgage bankers said yesterday, regarding expectations that the bond-market crisis will result shorttly in reduced interest

Uri Wurzburger, general manager of Bank Tefahot, said people who urgently need a mortgage should ionsider taking out a loan at a variable interest.

"A mortgage at a variable rate for 2½ years seems preferable to a fixed interest; after 2½ years, interest rates will change in accordance with contemporary market conditions," said Wurzburger.

The current market upheaval, highlighted by accelerated longterm savings withdrawals from

provident funds, are weighing heavily on mortgage banks since the funds serve them as a key source of long-term financing. In addition, the withdrawals have forced the funds to sell liquid assets, particularly state bonds, resulting in reduced bond prices and rising yields, which the banks roll on to home buyers in the form of higher mortgage rates.

Wurzburger said it will be disastrous for the mortgage market if interest rates continue to rise. The last few months' slowdown in apartment sales may lead to a drop in apartment prices, he said, but in that case "there is a real fear that market expectations will push down prices and lead to a housing crisis and a slowdown in construction starts," he warned, adding that such a scenario would particularly harm the banks.

Claridge-Arison retreats from Hapoalim tender

THE Claridge-Arison consortium, until now the leading contender for the purchase of a controlling share in Bank Hapcalim, yesterday unexpectedly announced it is withdrawing from the tender, thus leaving the Fishman group as the sole contender in Israel's largest-scale privatization scheme

The group, which is headed by Jonathan Kolber, cited changed legal circumstances since its original approach to the tender, but may examine the purchase of another Israeli bank, according to Claridge vice president Danny Biron.

MI Holdings, the government agency in charge of privatizing the banks, expressed regret at the group's decision, which came after a draft sale contract had already been reached between the parties, but before the deal's price tag was set.

According to MI Holdings general man-ager Meir Yacobson, the Bank of Israel is currently examining the Fishman consortium's request to participate in the tender. which involves 20 percent of the bank's

issued share capital. The group - which comprised Claridge Israel, Arison Investments, Goldman Sachs, the Soros group and the Renaissance Fund - said its decision to end negotiations

month-period since it originally approached the tender. The group said in a press release that local and international experts analyzed the deal on behalf of it, including the implications of the newly revised Banking Law, which compels all banks to reduce their holdings in non-financial assets to a maximum of

was due to micro- and macro-economic

changes which occurred during the 18-

"As a result of this study, combined with the changes in the Israeli economy, the group reached the above decision," the statement said. It added that consequent changes in the terms of the deal, as well as divergent opinions on the draft sale contruct and the potential loss of "other oppor-

funities in the Israeli market" while focusing on the deal's completion, "all contributed to the partners' decision not to proceed with the Bank Hapoalim transaction."

The consortium invested a total of \$4 million in hiring consultants to advise it on the transaction, according to Biron. That price, as well as the 18 months the group dedicated to looking into the deal and its neglegence of alternative investments during that time, indicate that the consortium was serious about purchasing Bank Hapoalim, Israel's largest financial institution, he said.

"In light of the many changes, we realized that the sale contract was not what we had really wanted, and for this reason we decided that the best way to cut losses is to get out," he said, emphasizing that negotiations on the price between the group and the govemment had not even started

As for the future, the group's components

say they are interested in making new investments in the Israeli economy, whether separately or as a group.

Claridge has serious plans to invest in other companies, including ones which stand to be sold as part of the government's privatization process, Biron said. "We will now engage in a series of internal discussion to examine alternative investments. We are willing to examine all proposals in order to make up for the last two year's deficit.

Meanwhile, the Fishman consortium has submitted its second application with the Bank of Israel to participate in the tender.

About seven months ago the central bank instructed the Fishman consortium to change the structure of the group to partici-pate in the tender. The Bank of Israel said the consortium does not have adequate equity capital to control the bank.

The Fishman consortium consists of businessman Eliezer Fishman, US investment bank Bear Steams and US insurance group



Bank of Israel Governor Jacob Frenkel, President Ezer Weizman, Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, and Finance Minister Dan Meridor toast Frenkel's second term at the central bank (B. Hender)

Teva profits hurt by Biocraft purchase

Ltd. yesterday reported a drop in net income from \$18.3 million in the second quarter last year to \$600,000 for the 1996 second quarter, during which the company purchased the US's Biocraft Laboratories Inc.

Net income for the quarter, before the \$14.9m, charge of the merger expenses, was \$15.5m. Revenues for the quarter were \$219.4m., a 15.8% increase

from \$189.5m. during the same period last year. Teva's shares rose 3.3% from \$30.50 to \$31.50 in early morn-

ing trading. The company's shares have been steadily decreasing since May, when they hit a yearly high of \$47.375.

The drop was fueled by growing fears that the US Food and Drug Administration's approval for the company's first proprietary drug. Copaxone. a multiple sclerosis treatment, would take longer than expected.

Recently, the FDA reneged on its decision to let the company bypass a stage in the review procedure of Copaxone.

Upon releasing the results. Teva CEO Eli Hurvitz responded optimistically and was enthusiastic about the company's abil-

TEVA Pharmaceutical Industries COMPANY RESULTS to NIS63.2m. last year.

ity to meet future challenges. In July, Teva acquired APS/Berk, the second largest generic company in the UK, for \$52.7m.

Clal Electronic Industries. Clal Industries' electronics and high-tech arm reported a 77% plunge in second quarter net profits to NIS15.18m. from NIS66.22m. in the corresponding period last year.

The second-quarter earnings include capital gains of NIS1.6m. In the second quarter of 1995, the company registered capital gains of NIS50m. Management said the drop in

earnings was due to higher losses in its subsidiary, Mennen Medical, and a move from a profit to a loss in Scitex. In addition, the company suf-

fered expenses of NIS2.8m. from RDC a start-up company that was not incorporated in the company's financial statements last year.

Net profits in the first six months of the year rose to NIS104.7m. from NIS90.6m. The earnings include net capital gains of NIS88.4m., compared

Shekem, the retail department-store chain, doubled its net losses in the second quarter to NIS16.95m., compared to losses

of NIS8.61m. in the same period last year. Operating losses increased 53% to NIS16.7m. in the second quarter from NIS11.96m. The higher losses were due to a drop

in revenues and a rise in management and general expenses. In the directors report attached to the financial statements, Gershon Zelkind, the company's controlling shareholder, said Shekem is continuing with its recovery program, which

includes separation of the company's activities into three divisions - food, electronics and department stores. Geotek Communications, Inc., a wireless mobile comunications company, reported an increase in net losses to \$31.3m. from \$12.4m. in the correspond-

ing quarter last year, the company announced yesterday. Revenues increased 10% to \$22.4m., compared \$20.3m. in the same period one

vear ago. Based in New Jersey, Geotek

has operations in Israel, Canada, Germany and the UK.

BITS & BYTES JENNIFER FRIEDLIN

Aliroo's encryption system selected by Murata: Japanese facsimile machine maker Murata has selected Aliroo's encryption system PrivaSuite in all of its 1997 models. Aliroo offers a host of encryption devices that make it difficult to decode information sent via fax or the Internet.

Cabletron announces development of Ethernet switches: Cabletron has announced the development of six new Ethernet switches that are based on SmartSwitch ASIC technology. The switches support virtual routing and are designed to speed up local area networks, the company said. US-based Cabletron is locally represented by Team Computers.

Eldor Computers provides system to Kupat Holim: Kupat Holim Clalit has decided to purchase computer equipment from Eldor computers, the local representative of the American company Dell. Eldor did not disclose the size of the deal.

Ipex acquires 50% of Winsite: Ipex (Israel), a subsidiary of Ipex (Australia), recently announced that it has acquired 50% of Winsite, which created Help Desk, a software tool that assists computer users with certain programs. Although Winsite will continue to function as an independent branch, the company's name will be changed to Winsite-Ipex. -

Omnitech-Ichut releases new software: Omnitech- Ichut has 🔨 🖘 announced the release of its latest software, Tikshurit. The software is designed for law offices and, according to the company, enables users to better manage their data.

Scitex to unveil latest imagesetter: Scitex recently announced that the Dolev 800VTM, an enhanced version of the Dolev 800TM, will be unveiled in the US at the Scitex Graphic Arts User Association meeting this month. The company claims that the new machine boosts the system's speed nearly 80 percent over earlier Dolev 800 models to 831 square inches per minute at 1,270

Studies '96 fair to feature Internet and computer technologies: The Studies '96 fair, Tel Aviv Exhibition Grounds, August 19-21, will offer a wide array of Internet and computer attractions and

TTI-Team Telecom wins tender: TTI-Team Telecom, a subsidiary of Team Computers, won a contract to supply the New York-based company Teleport with its network management and control system. The first stage of the project is worth \$1.2 million.

'96 tourist flow down sharply

DAVID HARRIS

THE number of tourists arriving here by air in March and April was 20 percent lower than in the January-February period, according to Central Bureau of Statistics figures published yesterday. In May and June the number of tourists dropped another 7%.

In the first six months of the year, 1,207,900 visitors arrived in Israel, ,099,600 of them tourists. In the same period, 108,300 arrived by sea, 837,500 by air, and 254,900 by land, a figure which includes Israelis returning from trips abroad.

The drop in tourism was attributed in part to the terrorist bombings in February and March and by Operation Grapes of Wrath. In April and May, the number of nights tourists spent in hotels was

New Russian finance minister: Budgets, revenues top priorities MOSCOW (Reuter) - Russia's and ensure it gets through parlia-

new Finance Minister Alexander Livshits said yesterday that defending the 1997 budget and increasing budget revenue were

among his top priorities. Livshits, who was President Boris Yeltsin's top economic aide until his appointment, said the Finance and Economy ministries had prepared a draft budget for 1997. The main goal is to defend it

Reading between the lines...



ment," he told ministry officials in a meeting attended by journalists. Prime Minister Viktor Chemomyrdin, who prescated

Livshits to his ministry, has said the cabinet will discuss the 1997 budget on August 22 and submit a draft to the State Duma lower house of parliament on August 31. Livshits, also a deputy prime minister in the new government,

said the ministry would discuss macroeconomic issues in the next couple of days and he would then discuss the situation in branches of industry with his deputy ministers. But Livshits also said the situation with the 1996 budget had to be

improved Tax collection is well below targer and ministers say the economy is actually short of cash. The budget deficit has widened, partly as a result of the high cost of financing massive issues of treasury bills in the run-up to last month's presidential election and

because in a revenues are too low. "If we do not improve the simation, then everything that the president promised before the election will be pointless," Livshits said.

would coordinate work with all the agencies involved with raising rev-Chemomyrdin, flanked by

Livshits and new First Deputy Prime Minister Vladimir Potanin, said the 1997 draft budget was not entirely satisfactory but that it was realistic. "That does not mean it must not

be changed. It must undergo changes in the direction of increasing revenue." he said. Potanin will take overall charge of the Russian economy.

The International Monetary Fund, worried at low tax revenues. withheld one tranche of a threeyear loan to Russia last month.

A delegation is visiting Russia this week to reassess the economic figures and decide whether to recoinmend the release of the tranche.

Correction

TADIRAN'S second-quarter net income more than trebled to \$53 million from \$12m, in the corresponding period last year. The company's operating income increased 86% over the same period.

down 4% to 5% from the seasonal average.

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (29.7.96) Currency (deposit for:)
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)
Pound starting (\$100,000)
Germen mark (DM 200,000)
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Yen (10 million yen) 12 MONTHS 5.375 4.125 2.250 1.500 3 MONTHS 3.875 1.750 1.000

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (15.8.96)

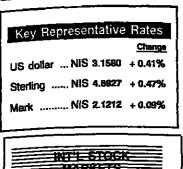
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German mark	2.0988	2.1325	2.06	2.17	2.1212	
Pound sterling	4.8426	4,9208	4,75	4.99	4.8927	
French frenc	0.6143	0,6243	0,60	3.64	0.6207	
Japanese yen (100)	2.8902	2.936 9	2.84	2.98	2.9206	
Dutch florin	1,8704	1.9006	1.83	1.93	1.8904	
Swiss franc	2.5799	2,6216	2.53	2.66	2,6078	
Swedish krona	0.4703	0.4779	0.46	0.49	0.4753	
Norwegian krone	0.48 6 0	0.4939	0.47	0.51	0.4912	
Danish krone	0.5428	0.5516	0.53	0.56	0.5485	
Finnish mark	0.6994	0.7107	83,0	0.73	0.7066	
Canadian dollar	2.2718	2.3085	2,23	2.35	2.2963	
Australian dollar	2.4383	24777	2.39.	2.52	2.4653	
S. African rand	0.6868	0,6979	0.62	0.70	0.6933	
l Belgian franc (10)	1.0187	1.0352	1.00	1.05	1.0293	
Austrian schilling (10)	2.9822	3.0904	2.93	3.06	3.0102	
italian iira (1000)	2.0592	2.0925	2.02	2.13	20798	
Jordanian dinar	4.3400	4,6400	4.34	4.64	4.5002	
Egyptian pound	0.8900	0.9700	0.89	0.97	1.0027	
ECU	3.9517	4.0155		_	3.9957	
irish punt	5.015B	5.0967	4.92	5.17	5.0582	
Spanish peseta (100)	2.4761	2,5161	2.43	2.56	2.5029	

*These rates vary according to bank. **Bank of largel. SOURCE: BANK LEUM!

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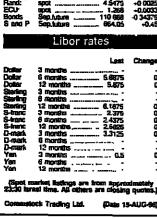
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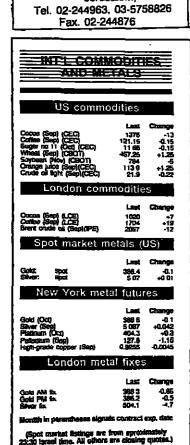
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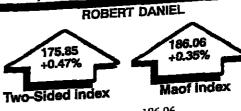
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Market up despite bond sell orders

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



STOCKS rose for a second day as investors concentrated on corporate earnings reports. They were little affected by the sell orders for bonds and officials' efforts to stabilize the bond market.

"What bond market?" said Jonathan Half, who runs the Tel Aviv office of Oscar Gruss and Son. "It doesn't seem to be having much effect. Many more stocks are up than down," he added.

Advancing issues include Bezeq, up 1.5 percent, Elbit, up 4%, and Discount Bank, also gaining

The Two-Sided Index was 0.47% higher at 175.85, according to preliminary figures, while the Maof Index advanced 0.35% to

The Two-Sided was up 1% until Teva reported is second-quarter earnings before merger costs dropped 15%. Trading in Teva then was halted, with the stock

for mon

Teva also was yesterday's most active stock, trading NIS 5.8 million of shares.

Clal Electronics rose 0.25 even though second-quarter eataings dropped 77%.
Tadiran was kind of weak,

given the terrific report" it turned out yesterday. Half said. The firm's share price was down 1%, even thought it reported a 61% jump in second-period

Eurobourses ignore conflicting US data WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuter) - A weaker Wall Street and conflicting US economic signals failed yesterday to unsettle European bourses, of buy recommendations out there which cruised quietly to a close in trading stilled by a holiday in many

Higher US weekly unemployment claims, rising industrial output and a falling Philadelphia Fed business outlook index left Wall Street groping for direction.

It opened lower but then hovered around seven points down as players attempted to make sense of the economy's vital signs.

Boosted by bustling bank stocks, London's FTSE 100 index rose to an intra-day high of 3,843.3, still short of its record 3,857.1, before ending at 3,837.4, up 7.1.

Shares in Lloyds TSB Group reached a new peak for the year at 363, while Barclays set a new record at 907. Standard Chartered and Natwest also made good

"The banks have had a good run but people still think they have got a way to go. There are still plenty on the banks," a trader said.

Gains on the FTSE 100 were not broadly based. Advancers only narrowly led decliners 47 to 42 and volume was light, with only 313 million shares trading hands. In Frankfurt, German shares

pared some of their earlier gains in post-bourse electronic IBIS dealings. The stable dollar helped to underpin the market but volumes were very light.

The IBIS DAX, which reflects all-day computer trade, was down around two points, although the 30-share DAX ended bourse floor trading up 7.65.

BASF gained 2.8 percent after saying it was to divest its loss-making Kali und Salz unit. K&S slumped as much as 19 marks to 190 marks before paring losses to end at 195 marks.

Stocks end mixed in quiet session WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK, (Reuter) - Blue- erage fell 1.10 points to close at awaited options expirations today.

chip stocks ended little changed in 5,665.78. In the broader market, a quiet session yesterday as traders advancing issues outpaced losers by a 13-to-10 margin on light New Based on early and unofficial York Stock Exchange volume of data, the Dow Jones industrial av- about 316 million shares.

THE PARTY

echnic

HAMAL

BONDS

(Continued from Page 1) Monday, then on August 26 and August 29. The tenders will come into force at 9 a.m. on each day and close before bond trading begins on the stock exchange.

| Volcan Materiels | 58.75 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 40.875 | 4

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The tender for sale of shortterm loans on Tuesday will be worth NIS 540m. The bank also said the weekly issue to the public will be increased from NIS 20m. to NJS 100m. This will occur for the first time on Wednesday and apply to shortterm loans with a maximum twoyearly redemption. If demand is large enough, this issue will also be increased by some NIS 20m. and once again in the last week of August.

Finance Minister Dan Meridor said solving the crisis in the long term will necessitate an allencompassing, fundamental examination, which is currently being undertaken by the Brodet committee. The committee's recommendations are expected just before Rosh Hashana.

We will study and assess them. I believe the capital markets will become what they should be," said Meridor.

the ceremony. Netanyahu, Meridor and Frenkel all stressed the importance of the bank's continued independence. Netanyahu also pledged he will not accept budget cuts any less than the cabinet-approved NIS 4.9 billion.

Meanwhile, Frenkel and Meridor refused a request to appear before the Knesset Finance Committee to discuss the crisis in the capital markets. As a result, committee chairman MK Avraham Ravitz suggested to other members that they gather the signatures of 30 MKs to arrange a special plenum of the Knesset to discuss the issue.

Last month's CoL index comprised rises in food and health product prices, but was offset by price depreciations in housing and clothing.

Food prices, excluding fruit and vegetables, rose by 1.4%, including meat (3.1%), flour (2.6%) and milk products (3.1%). On the other hand, fruit and vegetable prices decreased by an average of 0.1%, with eggplant dropping (126.7% and melons 18.9%. However, lemons, which were up 44.7%, and cucumbers, which rose 15.6%, bucked the downward trend.

Health-related goods rose in price by an average 1.5%, with medicines increasing in price by

The index for housing fell 0.7%, with particular decreases in the rented property sector (2.3%).
Upkeep of apartments, however, became 0.6% more expensive, as did furnishings (0.7%).
The prices (0.7%).

The price of clothing and footwear fell by an average 3.2% in July, reflecting the end of the summer season.

CURRENCY CROSS-RATES

R	MARK	STERLING	YEN	SFr	FFr .
MARK	-	0.4336/40	72.63/66		
STERLING	2.3048/58	•	167.40/52	0.8116/19	3.4162/67
YEN	1.3758/75	0.5967/76	*	1.8704/24	7.8718/06
SFr	123.14/24	0.5341/47	On an b	1 1167/82	4.6999/65
FFr	0.2926/28	0.1269/70	89.46/51	-	4.2068/06
		0.1203/10	21.24/29	0.2375/77	



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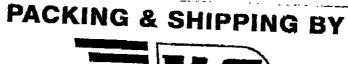
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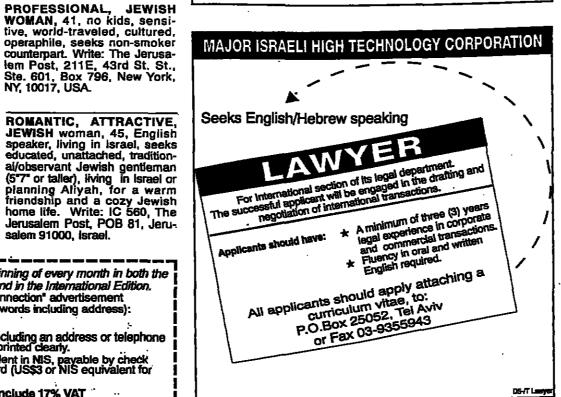
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O's Murray, Alomar each homer twice in win over Brewers

BALTIMORE (AP) - Eddie Murray's 497th career homer, his second of the game, snapped an eighth-inning tie Wednesday and gave the Orioles an 8-5 victory over Milwaukee, the Brewers' ninth straight loss.

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Roberto Alomar also homered twice for the Orioles, who have won seven of nine and 11 of 15. Alomar's second homer, a two-run shot off Ron Villone, made it 8-5 in the eighth,

Murray opened the inning by lining an 0-1 pitch from Ricky Bones (7-13) into the center-field seats. In the third, he hit a solo shot over the right-field scoreboard.

It was Murray's first two-homer game of the season and 27th of his career.

Murray, who has 18 homers this season, is just three homers short of joining Willie Mays and Hank Aaron as the only players in base-ball history with 500 homers and 3,000 hits. The two RBIs gave him 1,880 over 20 seasons and propelled him past Cap Anson into eighth place on the career list. Twins 13, Athletics 7

Chuck Knoblauch homered on the game's first pitch and Mart Walbeck drove in four runs for visiting

Knoblauch's homer ignited a fiverun first inning off Dave Telgheder ()-4) as the Twins won for the ninth time

Frankie Rodriguez (11-9) pitched five innings in relief of starter Scott Aldred for the win. Geronimo Berroa homered for the

A's, raising the team's major league leading total to 195. Mark McGwire. who leads the majors with 42 homers, went 0-for-3. Yankees 3, White Sox 1

Andy Pettitte became the AL's first 17-game winner and Darryl run for visiting New York.
The Yankees, avoiding a three-game

sweep, got solo homers from Tino Martinez and Derek Jeter. Pettitte (17-7) is 11-0 in day starts this season and 10-2 following a Yankees' loss. The left-hander scattered seven hits over seven innings, including Frank Thomas' 26th homer

in the sixth. He struck out nine. Mariano Rivera, assuming closer duties for now while John Wetteland nurses a pulled groin, pitched two innings for his fourth save.

Red Sox 8, Blue Jays 6 Charlie O'Brien's passed ball allowed Troy O'Leary to score the goahead run in the top of the ninth as Boston rallied from a 5-1 deficit.

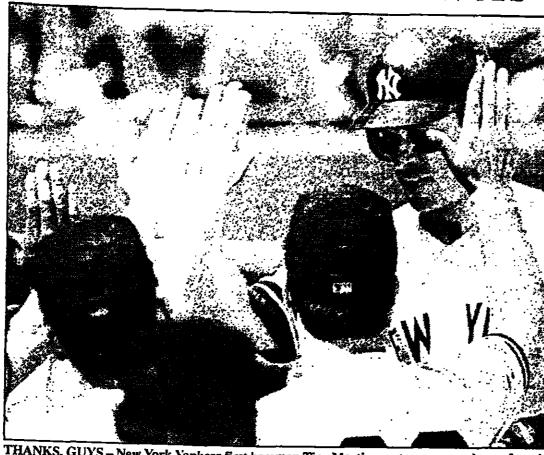
NATIONAL LEAGUE LEADERS
BATTING-Piazza, Los Angeles, 342; EYoung,
Colorado, 338; Grace, Chicago, 338; Burits,
Colorado, 334; CpLones, Atlanta, 318; Burhetie,
Colorado, 318; Sheffield, Flonda, 314.
RUNS-Burits, Colorado, 109; Finley, San Diego,
95; Bonds, San Francisco, 93; CpLones, Atlanta,
91; Sheffield, Florida, 91; Bichette, Colorado, 90;
Biggio, Houston, 88.
RBI-Galarraga, Colorado, 107; Bichette,
Colorado, 102; Bonds, San Francisco, 98; Sosa,
Chicago, 97; Burks, Colorado, 95; DBelt,
Houston, 94; Bagwell, Houston, 93; Hundley, New
York, 93. NATIONAL LEAGUE LEADERS

York, 93. HITS-Lightnson, New York, 160; Grissom, Colorado, 154; Bichette,

MITS-Lohnson, New York, 160: Grissom, Atlanta, 155; Burks, Colorado, 154; Bichette, Colorado, 153; Grudzietanek, Montreat, 151; Finley, San Diego, 147; Lansing, Montreat, 148. OCUBLES-Finley, San Diego, 36; HRodriguez, Montreat, 33: DBell, Houston, 33; Begwell, Houston, 33; Berry, Houston, 31; Bichette, Colorado, 31. TRIPLES-Lubinson, New York, 18; Grissom, Atlanta, 8; Finley, San Diego, 8; NAbbott, Flonda, 7; Mondesi, Los Angeles, 6; Vizzaino, New York, 56; Burks, Colorado, 6. HOME RUNS-Sosa, Chicago, 39; Hundley, New York, 36; Sheffield, Florida, 33; Galarraga, Colorado, 33; Burts, Colorado, 32; Bonds, San Francisco, 32; HRodriguez, Montreat, 30. STOLEN BASES-Lubinson, New York, 42; EYoung, Colorado, 41; DeShiedst, Los Angeles, 40; Larkin, Cincimnati, 32; Ritenderson, San Diego, 31; McPae, Chicago, 30; Lankford, St. Louls, 27. PITCHING (14 Decisions)-Smottz, Atlanta, 19-6, 760, 2.85; Reynolds, Houston, 15-6, 714, 3.53; Gardner, San Francisco, 10-4, 714, 4.27; Neagle, Potsburgh, 12-5, 706, 2.93; Fassero, Montreat, 12-7, 632, 2.89; Tractisel, Chicago, 10-6, 625, 2.83; Kile, Houston, 10-6, 625, 3.94.

STRIKEOUTS-Smoltz, Atlanta, 211; Nomo, Los Angeles, 173; Fassero, Montreat, 165; Pulkartnez, Montreat, 161; Kike, Houston, 159; Reynolds, Houston, 154; Giavine, Atlanta, 214; GMaddux, Atlanta, 144; GMaddux, Atlanta, 144; GMaddux, Atlanta, 144; GMaddux, SAVES-Birgattley, Cincinnati, 31; TdWorrell,

Attanta, 144. SAVES-JBrantiley, Cincinnati, 31; TdWorrell, Los Angeles, 30; Wohlers, Atlanta, 29; Hoffman, San Diego, 28; Franco, New York, 26; Bottalico, Philadelphia, 24; Beck, San Francisco, 24.



THANKS, GUYS - New York Yankees first baseman Tino Martinez gets a warm welcome from his teammates as he returns to the dugout after hitting a solo home run in the seventh inning of Wednesday's game against the Chicago White Sox at Comiskey Park.

Jacob Brumfield homered twice and drove in a career-high five runs for the Blue Jays. Mo Vaughn and Wil Cordero drove in three runs each for the Red Sox.

Stan Belinda (2-1) pitched a hitless eighth and Heathcliff Slocumb fined for his 19th save. Tim Crabtree (5-3) was the loser.

Royals 3, Mariners 1 The Mariners finished their worst Craig Paquette hit second-inning solo homers off Bob Wolcott (7-10). By going 1-8 in the Kingdome against Cleveland, Minnesota and the Royals, the Mariners fell seven games behind Texas, the AL West leader, and five games behind Chicago, the AL wild

card leader. Seattle has lost 10 of 12. Rookie Jose Rosado (4-2) won for the fourth time in five decisions, giving up one run and six hits in seven innings. Dave Montgomery got his 23rd save as the Royals won for the

sixth time in nine games.
NATIONAL LEAGUE Cardinals 6, Dodgers 1 Rookie Alan Benes pitched a fivehitter for his first win in five starts and Ron Gant hit a two-run homer for host

AMERICAN LEAGUE LEADERS

AMERICAN LEAGUE LEADERS
BATTING-AROdriguez, Seattle, 360;
Knoblauch, Minnesota, 356; Fhormas, Chicago,
356; RAlomar, Baltimore, 350; EMartinez, Seattle,
336; Möltlör, Mirmesota, 335; Cirillo, Milwaukee,
333; Franco, Cleveland, 333.
RUNS-Knoblauch, Minnesota, 110; ARodriguez,
Seattle, 102; RAlomar, Baltimore, 102; Lotton,
Cleveland, 95; Belle, Cleveland, 92; Phillips,
Chvcago, 92; MVaughn, Boston,
108; Buhner, Seattle, 108; Giorizalez, Texas, 104;
RPalmeiro, Baltimore, 100; Griffey Jr., Seattle, 99;
FThomas, Chicago, 96.

FThomas, Chicago, 96. HITS-Lofton, Cleveland, 165; Molitor,

ARodriguez, Seattle, 155; MVaughn, Boston, 155; IRodriguez, Texas, 154; RAlomar, Baltimore,

155; IRodriguez, Texas, 154; RAxomar, Baillmore, 151.

DOUBLES-EMantinez, Seattle, 44; ARodriguez, Seattle, 40; IRodriguez, Texas, 38; Cordova, Minnesota, 36; Gambi, Caldand, 34; MRamrez, Cleveland, 34; Greer, Texas, 33.

TRIPLES-Knoblauch, Minnesota, 11; Vina, Milwaukee, 7; Offerman, Kansas City, 7; Guillen, Chicago, 7; Jis Valenlin, Milwaukee, 6; Cora, Seattle, 6; DaMartinez, Chicago, 8; Carter, 7monto, 6.

Seattle, 6; DaMartinez, Chicago, 6; Carter, Toronto, 6.
HOME RUNS-McGwire, Oaktand, 42; Beile, Cleveland, 39; ByAnderson, Baltumore, 37; Griffley Jr, Seattle, 38; MvRaughm, Boston, 34; JGonzalez, Texas, 34; Buhner, Seattle, 34.
STOLEN BASES-Lofton, Cleveland, 57; TGoodwin, Kansas City, 55; Mixon, Toronto, 40; Knoblasuch, Mimesotta, 31; Vizquel, Cleveland, 30; Listach, Mimesotta, 31; Vizquel, Cleveland, 30; Listach, Mimesotta, 31; Vizquel, Cleveland, 30; Listach, Mimesotta, 31; Vizquel, Cleveland, 12-4, 750, 3,71; Pentide, New York, 17-7, 708, 4.30; Alvarez, Chicago, 14-6, 700, 3,77; BWeils, Seattle, 11-5, 687, 4.45; Hid-trock, Seattle, 11-5, 687, 52; Pavifik, Texas, 13-6, 684, 4,63; KHill, Texas, 13-6, 684, 3,47.
STRIKEOUTS-Clemens, Boston, 176; Finley, California, 160; AFernandez, Chicago, 146; Appier, Kansas City, 145; Guzman, Toronto, 141; Mussima, Baltimore, 140.
SAVES-Wetteland, New York, 38; RHernandez, Chicago, 32; Percival, California, 29; Mesa, Cleveland, 29; Herneman, Texas, 25; Montgomery, Kansas City, 23; RMyers, Baltimore, 23.

Benes (11-7) gave up one run - a homer to Chad Curtis - to win his first game since July 19. Gant broke out of a 2-for-17 slump

with his fifth-inning homer off Ismael Valdes (11-7), helping stop the Dodgers' four-game losing streak. Pirates 4. Giants 3 Rookie left-hander Chris Peters (1-

 supported his first major-league first hit and first RBI. Peters, winless in four prior starts with a 7.83 ERA. allowed six hits over 71/3 innings.
The Pirates had lost five straight and

Shawn Estes (2-3) gave up four runs and nine hits in six innings. John Ericks struck out Glenallen Hill and pinch-hitter Rick Wilkins with the potential tying run on third in the eighth and finished for his second save.

Astros 8, Expos 3 Shane Reynolds (15-6) became the third 15-game winner this season, and Jeff Bagwell and Sean Berry drove in two runs each for visiting Houston. Reynolds, who added two hits, allowed eight hits in seven innings, giving up a three-run homer to

WEDNESDAY'S AL RESULTS: New York 3, Chicago 1 Baltimore 8, Milwaukee 5 Minnesota 13, Oakland 7 Boston 8, Toronto 6 Texas 5, Detroit 4 Kansas City 3, Seattle 1 California 8, Cleveland 7

Moises Alon. Rheal Cormier (7-8) lasted just 32/3 innings - his shortest outing in 25 starts this season - allowing four runs

and seven hits. Mets 8, Cubs 5 Bobby Jones (10-7) carried a shutout into the eighth inning before tiring and Carlos Baerga drove in three runs as

host New York took an 8-0 lead. Jones (10-7), who left his previous der, scattered eight hits in seven-plus innings, leaving after Mark Grace's

Chicago closed to 8-5 in the ninth before stopper John Franco finished for his 26th save. Jim Bullinger (5-10) was tagged for six runs and seven hits in 2²/₃ innings.

Phillies 4, Braves 1

David West (1-1) and three relievers

scattered nine hits as host Philadelphia stopped a five-game losing streak. West, making only his third start of

the season since coming off the dis-abled list August 3, allowed one run and six hits innings in his first win since beating Pittsburgh on July 6, 1995. Ricky Bottalico got three outs for his 24th save.

WEDNESDAY'S NL RESULTS: Florida 2. Colorado 1 Philadelphia 4, Atlanta 1 Pittsburgh 4, San Francisco 3 St. Louis 6, Los Angeles 1 Houston 8, Montreal 3 New York 8, Chicago 5 Cincinnati 2, San Diego I (13)

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New York	70	49	.588	_	2-5-5	Won t	38-20	32-29
Baltimore	62	56	.525	71/2	7-3	Won 2	31-30	31-26
Boston	59	62	.488	12	z-8-2	Won 2	33-26	26-36
Toronto	54	67	.446	17	2-8	Lost 2	28-33	26-34
Detroit	42	78	350	281/2	7-5-5	Lost 3	23-33	19-45
Central Division								
Cleveland	72	49	.595	_	5-5	Lost 2	33-22	39-27
Chicago	67	54	554	5	z-6-4	Lost 1	34-25	33-29
Minnesota	60	60	.500	111/2	8-2	Won 2	28-32	32-28
Kansas City	57	65	.467	151/2	6-4	Won 1	26-34	31-31
Milwaukee	55	66	.455	17	z-1-9	Lost 9	28-34	27-32
West Division								
Texas	69	52	.570	-	7-3	Won 6	41-23	28-29
Seattle	61	58	.513	7	z-2-8	Lost 1	31-33	30-25
Oakland	60	62	.492	91/2	4-6	Lost 2	28-33	32-29
Calitornia	55	65	.458	131/2	3-7	Won 2	36-27	19-38
NATIONAL LEAG								
East Division	w	L	Pct	GB	L10	Streak	Home	Away
Atlanta	73	46	.613	- GB	z-6-4	Lost 1	41-21	32-25
Montreal	66	53	.555	7	z-6-4	Lost 1	38-25	28-28
New York	57	65	.467	171/2	3-7	Won 1	34-28	23-37
Florida	56	64	.467	171/2	5-5	Won 2	38-25	18-39
Philadelphia	49	72	.405	25	z-3-7	Won 1	26-32	23-40
Central Division	73	12	.400	سے	2-0 1	TTOIL I	20 02	₩-
Houston	65	56	.537	_	2-6-4	Won 1	34-23	31-33
St. Louis	64	56	.533	1/2	z-6-4	Won 1	32-27	32-29
Cincinnati	58	58	.500	41/2	5-5	Won 2	29-29	29-29
Chicago	59	60	.496	5	6-4	Lost 1	32-29	27-31
Pittsburgh	52	68	.433	121/2	2-8	Won 1	27-36	25-32
West Division	-							
San Diego	65	57	.533	-	z-6-4	Lost 2	31-29	34-28
Los Angeles	63	57	.525	1	5-5	Lost 1	31-25	32-32
Colorado	61	58	.513	21/2	z-6-4	Lost 3	40-19	21-39
San Francisco	50	68	.424	13	4-6	Lost 1	27-30	23-38
z-first game was a								-

Toto Cup soccer action continues

لقلذا من ألاصل

SOCCER action continues this weekend with the second round of Toto Cup group matches for the 16 clubs that make up the National League. Israel's hopefuls in European club competitions, Maccabí Tel Aviv and Ironi Rishon Lezion will be aiming to use their games to help sharpen their talons ahead of next week's crucial European return legs against Fenerbahce and Constructol.

The Tel Avivians blasted four goals past Zafririm Holon in the first round, while the Rishonis could only muster a goalless draw in their match against Hapoel Tel Aviv. This weekend it is **DEREK FATTAL**

Maccabi's turn to take on Hapoel Tel Aviv in what looks to be the most interesting fixture of the round, while Holon is hosted by Rishon.

Hapoel Taiba, whose 0-0 draw against Betar Jerusalem last week ended amid some irresponsible jeering by a few troublemakers at Teddy Stadium, will be hoping for better behavior from Bnei Yehuda fans when the two teams meet in Netanya tomorrow.

Second Division sides are set to begin their group matches in the Toto Cup this weekend, however there is some doubt as to whether all the fixtures will be played as several teams have not had their budgets for the season passed by the IFA's financial comptroller.

This weekend's fixtures, Toto Cup. This weekend's fixtures, Toto Cup. second round group matches: (all kick offs at 17:00 tomorrow unless stated): Ironi Rishon v. Zafirim Holon, Rishon; Hapoel Tel Aviv v. Maccabi Tel Aviv, Bloomfield, 19:00; Hapoel Beit She'an v. Maccabi Petah Tikva, Beit She'an; Hapoel Beersheba v. Maccabi Haifa, Beersheba, 19:00; Hapoel Taiba v. Rnei Vehuda. Hapoel Taiba v. Bnei Yehuda, Netanya; Betar Jerusalem v. Maccabi Herzliya, Teddy Stadium, 18.0 Hapoel Haifa v. Hapoel Jerusalen Nahariya, 17:30; Hapoel Petah Tikv v. Hapoel Kfar Sava, Kfar Sava, today

British soccer season begins tomorrow

LONDON (AP) - Manchester United strengthened its squad by importing four players from overseas during the summer and another, Spanish defender Miguel Angel Nadal, may also be on the way.

Yet the key figure in its all-conquering series of title successes is one who's been there for four seasons - French forward Eric Cantona_

"Eric is just a fantastic player," manager Alex Ferguson said after seeing the Frenchman's perfor-mance in last Saturday's 4-0 demolition of Newcastle in the Charity Shield.

"Obviously he's not the only player on the team but so many good things happen when the ball goalscorer, a goal-maker and a general inspiration."

With Cantona on the team, United has collected three titles in four seasons and won the F.A. Cup twice. Without him for much of the 1994-95 season after the Frenchman was suspended for kicking a fan, the Reds surrendered the league title to Blackburn.

Now Cantona, who also is team captain, leads United into first-day action at Wimbledon tomorrow while the other imports, Dutch forward Jordi Cruyff, Czech winger Karel Poborsky, Dutch goalkeeper Raimond Van der Gouw and Norwegian defender, Ole Gunnar Solskgaer, likely will be battling for places on the

lineup based on the players who won an unprecedented second league and cup double last season and the newcomers will have to wait their turn.

A slipup against Wimbledon, which climbed to 14th after spending most of last season near the foot of the standings, is unlikely, even at Selhurst Park. But the Reds will remember they made a poor start to last season, tumbling

3-1 at Aston Villa. Newcastle, which finished runner up last season after starting off with four wins in a row and nine out of 10 games, hopes to bounce back from its mauling at Wembley by winning at Everton.

Alan Shearer, a world record last season in a Blackburn Rovers shirt and hopes to start his Newcastle career with a goal at Goodison Park.

Manager Kevin Keegan has a wealth of talent to choose from when it comes to naming his strikeforce with names like Shearer, Frenchman David Ginola, Les Ferdinand, Keith Gillespie and Peter Beardsley, although Colombian forward Faustino Asprilla misses the game because of a suspension hanging over from last season.

Liverpool, which placed third last term and also was runner up to Manchester United in the F.A. Cup final, also is on the road tomorrow.

Middlesbrough and will give ed Dunfermline. Ferguson probably will field a Czech midfielder Patrick Berger

his debut against a 'Boro lineup likely to include Brazilian newcomer Emerson and Italian striker Fabrizio Ravanelli.

Boro manager Bryan Robson is unable to field another Brazilian star, Juninho, who returned from Olympic action with a knee injury that could sideline him for the first three games.

Aston Villa, which finished fourth and also won the League Cup, travels to Sheffield Wednesday, which climbed clear of relegation trouble last term.

Villa manager Brian Little has strengthened his lineup by hiring Portuguese defender Fernando Nelson and buying Yugoslav mid-fielder Sasa Curcic from relegated

Arsenal, reportedly about to appoint French coach Arsene Wenger as replacement for fired Bruce Rioch, has hired two French players, Patrick Vieira and Remi Garde and may field them against West Ham, which now has Romanian star Florin Raducioiu.

Two of three promoted clubs, Sunderland and Leicester, meet on the opening day, while the third, Derby County, starts with a home game against Leeds. Elsewhere, it is Blackburn-

Tottenham, Coventry-Nottingham Forest and Southampton-Cheisea on Sunday while Scottish champion Rangers, aiming for a recordequaling ninth title in a row, bids to follow up last week's victory 'Roy Evans' team goes to over Raith with another at promot-

Former Monaco manager Wenger likely Arsenal pick

Official announcement may come by next week Arsenal on Wednesday signed his

LONDON (Reuter) - Former ready to move to London. Monaco manager Arsene Wenger, the man heavily tipped to take over as manager of English Premier League giants Arsenal, said he would make an announcement on his future next Tuesday.

Speaking to the Daily Mail newspaper from Japan, where he coaches J-league club Grampus Eight, the Frenchman said: "I don't anticipate anything being made official until a statement is made by me and Grampus Eight on August 20."

And although the 47-year-old refused to confirm British media speculation we will be named as successor to Bruce Rioch, who was sacked on Monday less than a week before the start of the new season, Wenger hinted he was

"Arsenal are right up there as one of the biggest clubs, so it would be a very big challenge for me, probably the biggest of my

career," he told the Daily Mail newspaper. "English football has become high-profile in the last few years...I know the English game very well - what the demands are, what the passion is and how desperate everyone is for success.

Therefore the prospect of being the coach at a club like Arsenal is a very exciting one for me but I can't say too much about it because nothing has been officially confirmed yet."

In another move which suggested the 47-year-old Frenchman would take over at Highbury,

compatriots Patrick Vieira from AC Milan and Remi Garde from Strasbourg. "I'm glad to be signing for a club like Arsenal and working

with Arsene Wenger," said Garde, further lifting the veil on one of English soccer's worst kept secrets. Wenger played his 11 profes-

sional matches at Strasbourg before launching a highly successful career in soccer management, first with the northeastern French club, then at nearby Nancy. He was appointed chief coach at

Monaco in 1987, guiding them to the French league title after signing current England manager Glenn Hoddle and former England striker Mark Hateley.



IT WAS THE OTHER GUY - Andre Agassi talks with reporters after being defaulted by ATP officials for 'verbal abuse' during his RCA Championship second-round match in Indianapolis on

Agassi disqualified from RCA tourney

INDIANAPOLIS (AP) - Andre Agassi just can't stay out of the spotlight. After hitting a ball into the stands and cursing the

umpire Wednesday night, Agassi was disqualified from the RCA Championships during his match against Canadian Daniel Nestor Agassi had just been broken in the fifth game of the

second set of his second-round match when he hit a ball into the stands. He was cited for ball abuse by chair umpire Dana Laconto.

Agassi then shouted an expletive at the umpire. who in turn called for ATP Tour supervisor Mark Darby to confer with Agassi. That meeting ended with Darby instructing Laconto to default Agassi, giving the match to Nestor 1-6, 3-2 (default).

"I got a warning, then he went straight to default,"
Agassi said. "I felt I had an argument for not getting a point penalty. ...

"It's something I've said a thousand times," Agassi said, "and today they decide that crossed the line."

The crowd reacted to the default by booing and throwing paper, towels and water bottles onto the court. Agassi sat on his chair for a few minutes, then left the court still furning. The crowd cheered Agassi as he departed.

"I will take responsibility for getting a warning and I will take responsibility for getting upset on the court, like I have done a thousand times," Agassi said. But I will not accept this decision. It was a wrong decision."

Paralympic Games kick off in Atlanta **Post Sports Staff**

and news agencies

ATLANTA - Thirty-five hundred Cable News Network will run feadisabled athletes from 120 nations have converged on Atlanta to compete for in the 10-day Paralympic Games, which began with the opening ceremony last

The Israeli delegation arrived at the Olympic Village Tuesday night, after a long flight, and after a brief acclimatization some of the athletes set out for initial uraining.
On Wednesday, the Jewish

Federation of Atlanta, together with the Hadassah organization held a reception for the delegation. Over 500 people were present at the event, amongst them Arieh Makel, the Israeli Consul in Atlanta, Marilyn Post, president of Hadassah, and other guests.

They may stay in the same village, compete in the same arenas and light the same cauldron as the Olympic athletes, but this year's Paralympians promise to provide their own athletic show. And this year, national televi-

sion coverage may help them out. CBS has set aside a few hours of programming each of the next two weekends, and regional cable network SportSouth will air nightly hour-long highlights shows. Also, tures about past and present Paralympic champions. The Paralympic Games began in Rome in 1960 and have been held

every Olympic year since, usually in the city or country hosting the Olympic Games. The Atlanta Paralympics are the first to be televised in the US, Fleming said. Paralympians are miffed that many of the banners decorating

Atlanta for the Olympics have been taken down and that Centennial Olympic Park, chief gathering place for Olympic crowds, will be only partially open for the Paralympics. Still, organizers hope to attract large, mostly local crowds to the

competition by billing it as one last chance to watch world-class athletes without the hassles of Olympic crowds. More than 60,000 tickets have been sold for last night's opening ceremony, making it almost a self-

out, APOC spokesman Steve Goldberg said. Organizers promised a few surprises for opening night. Christopher Reeve was scheduled to be the master of ceremonies and Aretha Franklin, Carly Simon and

Liza Minelli were to perform.

Czech international Patrick Berger yesterday completed his £3 million move to Liverpool - the side he idolized as a boy. "It's always been an ambition to play for Liverpool since I can

Berger completes move to Liverpool

remember," the 22-year-old attacking midfielder said through an interpreter after sealing his transfer from German champions Borussia Dortmund. Berger is carrying a slight calf injury but hopes to make his debut

British Soccer Briefs

against Middlesbrough tomorrow.

Niall Quinn joins newly promoted Sunderland Ireland striker Niall Quinn completed a £1.3m move from Manchester City to newly-promoted Sunderland yesterday. Quinn signed a three-year contract with last season's division one champions and will make his debut in the club's opening day

fixture at home to Leicester on Saturday. Leicester completes double signing English Premier League newcomers Leicester completed a £1.4m double swoop for Millwall goalkeeper Kasey Keller and Norwich

center-back Spencer Prior yesterday.

Leicester boss Martin O'Neill has agreed to pay £900,000 for Washington-born Keller and £500,000 for Prior and both players agreed personal terms after talks at the club's Filbert Street

The duo make their debuts in Leicester's season opener away to fellow Premier League new club Sunderland tomorrow.

QPR threatens Leeds over Sinclair Queens Park Rangers are threatening to report Leeds to the Football

Association over their attempts to sign highly-rated winger Trevor First division Rangers are angry with the Premier League club for

talking to the media about the player when they have been told he

is not available. Leeds manager Howard Wilkinson may, in any case, be ready to Switch his sights to an out-and-out striker because top scorer Tony Yeboah has had an exploratory knee operation and will be out until

A-G backtracks, agrees to give Olmert a hearing

Ben-Yair flip-flopped yesterday on the question of whether to give Jerusalem Mayor Ehud Olmert a hearing before indicting him, first announcing that he would not, but then backtracking.

Ben-Yair decided two months ago to indict Olment for alleged involvement in a 1988 Likud fundraising scam, but said at the time that he would first give the mayor a hearing. Yesterday morning, however, he went ahead and asked the Knesset to lift Olmert's parliamentary immunity, saying the mayor had decided to waive the hearing.

. According to Ben-Yair's office, the hearing had been postponed repeatedly at Olmert's request, and the two sides had finally agreed that Olmert would instead submit his arguments in writing by yesterday. On Wednesday, the office said, Olmen's attorney, Yigal Arnon, changed his mind and asked for an oral hearing instead. Ben-Yair agreed, but insisted that it would still have to be held yesterday. According to Ben-Yair, Amon responded that in that case,

he would waive the hearing.

When Arnon heard yesterday that Ben-Yair had asked the Knesset to lift Olment's immunity, he protested vigorously, saying his client had never waived his right to a hearing. Ben-Yair then backtracked and agreed to hold a hear-

ing on September 1.
"The course of events created the impression that there was no real desire for a hearing, but merely a desire for delay," Ben-Yair said afterwards in a letter to Amon. "But to prevent any charge of unfair treatment... I agree to hold a

The draft indictment charges Olmert with aggravated fraud and falsifying corporate documents, as well as two violations of the income tax laws and one violation of the Party Funding Law (making a false declaration to the state comptroller). All of the charges relate to the

EVELYN GORDON and BILL HUTMAN

Likud's 1988 election campaign, during which Olmert, as treasurer, was heavily involved in fund-raising. According to the draft indictment. Olmert suggested to Yona Peled - a member of a non-profit organization raising funds for the Likud - that he solicit money from businesses and give them ficti-tious receipts which would indicate that the money was spent on advertising. Peled accepted the idea, and in this way the Likud raised NIS 932,787, none of which was recorded on his organization's

The scheme violated the law in two ways. First, contributions from businesses are illegal. Second, the fictitious receipts enabled the companies to tax deductions for the donations as if they were legitimate business expenses.

Olmert also submitted a false report to State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat so that she would give the Likud a clean bill of health for its campaign finances. This enabled the party to receive the remainder of its campaign funding, NIS 2.148 million, from the gov-

Peled and eight others involved in the affair were indicted in the Tel Aviv District Court in 1991; but the state said at the time that it lacked sufficient evidence to indict Olmert. While Peled's testimony against Olmert during the trial changed this situation, Ben-Yair said he saw no point in indicting Olmert unless the district court convicted the others, since there would be no chance of convicting Olmert if the others were acquit-

The district court issued its ver-

dict only this past March. Sources close to the mayor yesterday charged Ben-Yair acted unprofessionally and with apparent intent to discredit Olmert's

That Ben-Yair later reversed the decision and agreed to reschedule his hearing, raises further ques-tions about the functioning of the attorney-general, the sources added. It appears as if the entire affair was simply a trick by Ben-Yair to make the mayor look bad, by creating a news item again of the fact the mayor faces criminal charges," one of the sources close

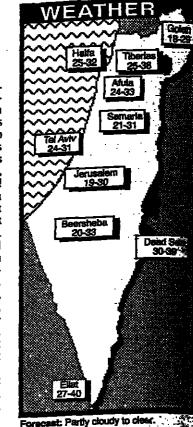
to Olmert said. The sources said Ben-Yair acted with complete disrespect for the mayor, originally scheduling the hearing on the day Olmert was set to leave for the US with Prime Minister Binyamin Netanyahu, and before he and his lawyer could review the material.

For Olmert, the final straw came on Wednesday, when Amon sent a letter requesting the hearing be postponed until the beginning of September, and Ben-Yair held firm

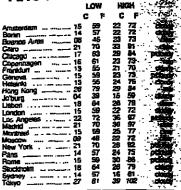
to holding the hearing the next day.

After being told about the mixup, Ben-Yair presented Amon with an ultimatum to hold the hearing as scheduled, or have Olmen give up his right to a hearing. The sources said Amon said neither choice was acceptable. Ben-Yair, however, simply ignored the attorney, and presented Knesset Speaker Dan Tichon with the request to lift Olment's immunity, saying Olment was giving up his right to a hearing.

How could the attorney-general write something like that, when Amon told him something completely different?" the source asked. Olmert himself would only say. "I am convinced of my innocence, and am certain that it will be proven. ... We are talking about something that happened eight years ago, and about a file that contains thousands of documents. Does anyone seriously believe that by requesting to delay my hearing by two weeks I was trying to drag



AROUND THE WORLD



Winning numbers & cards In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 881890 won NIS 1,000,000.

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Tickets numbered 710754, 390446, 652743, 595128, 093521, 633408, 612494 and 701825 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 75484, 61752, 98981, 09515, 72423, 22175, 6665S. 50750, 62689, 15654, 34442, 23307, 42762, 30095, 50531, 84522, 66068, 21972, and 99070 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 192, 421, 881, and 333 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 35, 30, 92 and 47 won NIS 30. Tickets ending in 84 and 66 won NIS 20.

Tickets ending in 7 and 3 won NIS 10. In yesterday's Mifal Hapavis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the 7 of spades, the 9 of hearts, the queen

Levine orders probe into death of Golani recruit **ARIEH O'SULLIVAN** officer a generation before. The IDF Spokesman said only that OC Northern Command Maj.-Gen.

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<u>הייאט רג'נסי ים</u> המלח

Amiram Levine has ordered a special team to investigate the sudden death of Golani recruit Amit Kosover who died while on a training march Wednesday night. Pvt. Kosover, 18, was buried yes-

terday at Kfar Sirkin. He had only been in uniform for three weeks. Kosover said he did not feel well following a five-kilometer forced march in his Golani unit. Shortly later he collapsed and died. News of

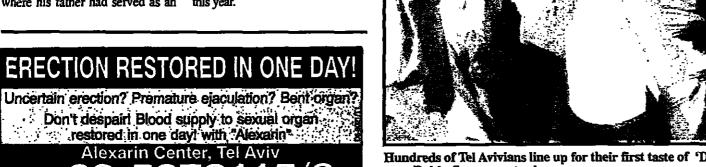
father was serving in reserve duty. Kosover, the eldest of five children and an avid sportsman, pushed to join the Golani Brigade, proudly joining the same battalion where his father had served as an

his death reached the family as his

Kosover died after the march in the Jordan Valley and has not yet released the cause of death. The Military Police, following procedure, immediately opened an investigation into the death

But Levine took the exceptional step of setting up a separate investigation team. The team is to include safety and medical personnel.

Before burial, Kosover reportedly underwent a post mortem which was to have examined a possible heart attack, among likely causes of death. Kosover was known to have been a good sportsman. He was the ninth soldier to die in training accidents



Hundreds of Tel Avivians line up for their first taste of 'Dunkin' Donuts' at the opening of the American chain's first shop in Israel, near Rabin Square yesterday.

Military court to issue-sentence on dehydration case

ARIEH O'SULLIVAN

A SPECIAL military court is to issue its sentencing today of three officers, including the former head of the army's top commando unit, convicted of causing the death by negligence of two soldiers who died of dehydration.

The high-profile case is being keen-ly watched by officers and parents, as will indicate just how far the govemment and the IDF will hold commanders responsible for training accidents and other nonoperational deaths.

The case involves the 1992 deaths of Yaron Bar-Dor, of Jerusalem, and Eran Ofer, 19, who died of dehydration while on a map reading exercise

in the Negev. The special military court, meeting in Tel Aviv, had been scheduled to hand down its sentence last week, but delayed it after the defense presented an unprecedented string of character witnesses, including Defense Minister Yitzhak Mordechai, former chief of staff Ehud Barak and three major-genassume responsibility. We'll have an army full of jobnikim," Milstein said. erals. Their appearance, and particularly Mordechai's, was seen as a mes-

sage to the autonomous military court that the top brass was backing its field commanders against an increasing number of trials against senior offi-

One of the officers being sentenced is Col. Amos Ben-Avraham, the former commander of Sayeret Matkal, the General Staff commando unit. The prosecution has demanded a heavy punishment - including a prison term and demotion. The other two officers convicted are also from the comman-

ative message. No one will want to take the lead anymore. No one will

"Ben-Avraham needs to get a medal not a trial. He's one of Israel's greatest and bravest fighters," said Lt.-Col. (res.) Nadav Milstein, who along with 100 other reserve officers signed a petition published in newspapers against the trail. "Putting officers like Ben-Avraham on trial weakens us. The whole approach is sending a neg-

THE Volcker Committee, charged identifying with dormant Holocaust-era assets in Swiss banks, held its first meeting

Wednesday in New York. The committee, which met behind closed doors, reviewed its mission and attended to housekeeping details, which included a honorarium to compensate committee members for their time.

The Jewish delegates will not personally accept the honorarium of \$50,000, Jewish Agency head Avraham Burg said in a statement issued yesterday. He proposed, instead, that their honoraria go to a fund to perpetuate the memories of the victims of the Holocaust. The other Jewish delegates are Ruben Baraja of Argentina, an official of the World Jewish Congress, and Ronald Lauder, an American businessman-philanthropist.

The delegates chosen by the bankers are an historian, a law professor and a former diplomat. committee chairman.

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to review Holocaust assets MARILYN HENRY

Volcker Committee convenes

American banker Paul Volcker, apparently imposed strict discipline on the committee, intended to limit contacts with the media. He issued a brief statement vesterday that was shy of new details. Instead, it reiterated the mission of the committee as outlined in an

NEW YORK

agreement signed last May 2 between the Swiss Bankers Association and the World Jewish Restitution Organization. The first task is to name an auditor to conduct a review of dormant assets in Swiss banks. Before Volcker became chairman, the committee had informally approved the accounting firm of

known if Volcker would confirm that choice. There was no indication of when the Volcker Committee would meet next or how long it expected

to take to complete its work.

Price Waterhouse to conduct the

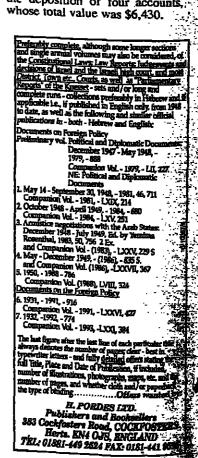
review, sources said. It was not

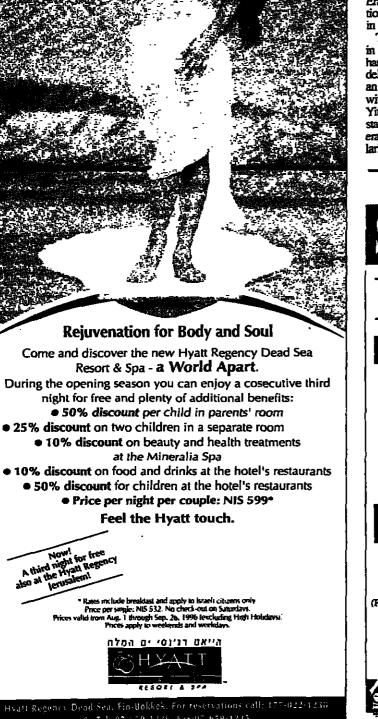
Before it signed an agreement with the bankers, the World Jewish Restitution Organization said that one of its grievances was the lack of openness in the process the banks had used previously in determining the assets. Yesterday, several observers suggested that, given demands for transparency, the Volcker committee meetings should be open.

Separately, the Swiss company Societe General de Surveillance the first one named in a US: Senate inquiry of Jewish assets in Swiss accounts - said yesterday that it had concluded its review of its records and found that the "vast majority" of the accounts in question had been claimed by their rightful owners after the

Last March, Senator Al D'Amato had challenged SGS to indicate what had happened to 182 accounts, then worth \$2 million, that were mentioned in material that had been newly released by the US National Archives.

In a telephone interview from Geneva, SGS said that an audit by accountants Coopers and Lybrand indicated that 178 accounts were commercial balances of customers who had since been in contact with the company. The audit could not reach any conclusions about the deposition of four accounts,





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